

Vetting of 384 TESS Objects of Interest with TRICERATOPS and Statistical Validation of 12 Planet Candidates

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(Accepted October 30, 2020)

ABSTRACT

We present **TRICERATOPS**, a new Bayesian tool that can be used to vet and validate *TESS* Objects of Interest (TOIs). We test the tool on 68 TOIs that have been previously confirmed as planets or rejected as astrophysical false positives. By looking in the false positive probability (FPP) – nearby false positive probability (NFPP) plane, we define criteria that TOIs must meet to be classified as validated planets ($FPP < 0.015$ and $NFPP < 10^{-3}$), likely planets ($FPP < 0.5$ and $NFPP < 10^{-3}$), and likely nearby false positives ($NFPP > 10^{-1}$). We apply this procedure on 384 unclassified TOIs and statistically validate 12, classify 125 as likely planets, and classify 52 as likely nearby false positives. Of the 12 statistically validated planets, 9 are newly validated. **TRICERATOPS** is currently the only *TESS* vetting and validation tool that models transits from nearby contaminant stars in addition to the target star. We therefore encourage use of this tool to prioritize follow-up observations that confirm bona fide planets and identify false positives originating from nearby stars.

1. INTRODUCTION

Over the last decade, the *Kepler* Space Telescope has revolutionized our understanding of exoplanets by facilitating the discovery of thousands of planets that transit in front of their host stars. Among other things, these planets have been useful for investigating the frequency of planets as a function of size and orbital period (e.g., Howard et al. 2012; Dong & Zhu 2013; Dressing & Charbonneau 2013; Fressin et al. 2013; Petigura et al. 2013; Foreman-Mackey et al. 2014; Morton & Swift 2014; Sanchis-Ojeda et al. 2014; Burke et al. 2015; Dressing & Charbonneau 2015; Mulders et al. 2015a,b; Fulton et al. 2017; Hsu et al. 2018), as well as testing theories of planet formation and evolution (e.g., Lopez & Fortney 2013; Swift et al. 2013; Lee & Chiang 2017; Königl et al. 2017; Giacalone et al. 2017). To ensure the veracity of their results, studies that utilized the *Kepler* dataset required that: (1) the measured radii of these planets were accurate, and (2) that the discovered objects were actually planets. However, due to the limited $4''/\text{pixel}$ resolution of the camera used by *Kepler*, these two requirements could not always be assumed true. Because it was not uncommon for *Kepler* field stars of comparable brightness to reside $< 4''$ apart, the presence of multiple unresolved stars within a given set of pixels could not be discounted. This uncertainty was problematic because the existence of unresolved stars could cause an underestimation of the radius of a transiting object, sometimes to the extent that an eclipsing binary star could be mistaken for a transiting planet with a fraction of the size.

A number of methods have been used to constrain the possibility of an unresolved star residing within a given pixel. One method used is to search for offsets in the centroid of the source during transit, a signal indicative of

another star residing elsewhere in the pixel (e.g., Bryson et al. 2013; Coughlin et al. 2014). Multi-band time-series photometry has also been used to search for unresolved stars, as one would expect a different transit depth in different photometric bands if the transiting object is around a star of a different color than the target (e.g., Alonso et al. 2004). Spectra of the target star can also be useful in this vetting process. High-precision radial velocities can rule out bound stellar companions by measuring the masses of transiting objects and monitoring for longer-period secondaries (e.g., Ermann et al. 2014), and reconnaissance spectroscopy can rule out bright unresolved stars by searching for additional lines in the spectrum of the target star (e.g., Santerne et al. 2012; Kolbl et al. 2014). Finally, high-resolution imaging can rule out unresolved stars beyond a fraction of an arc-second from the target star (e.g., Crossfield et al. 2016; Mayo et al. 2018). Unfortunately, these techniques do not cover the full allowed parameter space individually, and *Kepler* planet candidate hosts were often too faint for precise radial velocity measurements. For this reason, it was common to turn to vetting and statistical validation to assess the genuineness of *Kepler* planet candidates.

When speaking of vetting, we refer to the process of scrutinizing the photometry of threshold-crossing events (TCEs, periodic transit-like signals originating from target stars) and classifying them as planet candidates and false positives of instrumental or astrophysical origin. Vetting procedures typically make use of automated decision-making algorithms to determine the natures of these events. Autovetter (McCauliff et al. 2015; Catanzarite 2015) and Robovetter (Thompson et al. 2018) are a *Kepler*-era vetting procedures that classify TCEs based on *Kepler* data using a random-forest and decision tree algorithms. DAVE (Kostov et al. 2019) is a vetting tool that calculates metrics based on centroid position and transit shape to classify *K2* and *TESS* TCEs.

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Lastly, Exonet (Shallue & Vanderburg 2018) and Astronet (Ansdell et al. 2018) make use of convolutional neural networks to classify TCEs based on transit shape. By distinguishing planet candidates from false positives, these tools have allowed others to focus planetary confirmation and characterization efforts on the most promising targets.

When speaking of statistical validation, we refer to the process of statistically ruling out astrophysical false positive scenarios to a degree of certainty high enough to advance the status of a planet candidate to one similar to that of a planet confirmed via mass measurement. In addition to information gleaned from the light curve of a planet candidate, validation algorithms typically incorporate constraints obtained from follow-up observations like those described previously. A number of statistical validation algorithms were used during the *Kepler* era in order to grow the dataset with which large-scale studies of planetary system properties could be conducted.

The first *Kepler*-era validation framework was BLENDER (Torres et al. 2004, 2005, 2010b). BLENDER begins by generating synthetic light curves using models of transiting planets and astrophysical false positives involving blended eclipsing binaries. Next, it calculates the χ^2 of the best-fit planetary scenario and the χ^2 values for several false positive scenarios over a grid of model parameters. For each false positive scenario, the region of parameter space where the scenario is viable (defined by where χ^2 differs from the best-fit planetary χ^2 with a confidence level $< 3\sigma$) is identified. The properties of the blended stars in these viable instances are then compared to constraints obtained from supplementary follow-up, such as high-resolution imaging and spectroscopy, to determine if they are physically possible. In addition to this light curve analysis, BLENDER calculates the multi-color photometry one would expect to measure for each false positive scenario to compare to the actual observed colors. If the properties of all viable false positive scenarios are ruled out by the information from these external observations, the planet candidate is considered validated.

BLENDER offered a robust option for the statistical validation of transiting planet candidates during the *Kepler* era. However, the hands-on nature of the algorithm and the long computation times required to simulate the many false positive scenarios involved in its analysis made it inefficient for validating planet candidates in bulk. This led to the formulation of a different validation procedure by the name of VESPA (Morton 2012, 2015). In addition to being fully automated, VESPA provides a more computationally expedient option for validating planet candidates by replacing the physical transit

models employed in BLENDER with a simpler trapezoidal model, which can capture the most important features of the transit shape with fewer free parameters.

VESPA works in a Bayesian framework where the probabilities of several transit-producing scenarios are computed. For every scenario, VESPA uses the TRILEGAL galactic model (Girardi et al. 2005) to simulate a population of stars with properties consistent with the target star in a cone around the line of sight to the target. The properties of these simulated stars are inferred using archival photometry of the target star and isochrone interpolation, which ensures agreement with observational constraints. For each instance of each population, the transit shape is characterized using a trapezoidal model, which allows for the generation of a trapezoidal parameter prior distribution for each scenario. VESPA then uses a Markov Chain Monte Carlo routine to fit the *Kepler* light curve to the same trapezoidal model to determine the region of parameter space the target occupies. Next, the marginal likelihood is calculated for every scenario by integrating the product of the trapezoidal likelihood and parameter prior over the predetermined region of parameter space. These marginal likelihoods are multiplied by model priors based on the geometries of simulated systems and assumptions relating to the occurrence of planets and close binaries. Lastly, the probability of the transiting planet scenario is assessed by comparing this product for the transiting planet scenario with those of all false positive scenarios, with the planet candidate being validated if the overall false positive probability is $< 1\%$. Like BLENDER, VESPA can also incorporate follow-up observations to obtain tighter constraints on this probability.

Another procedure used to validate exoplanet candidates is PASTIS (Díaz et al. 2014; Santerne et al. 2015). PASTIS provides a rigorous option for the statistical validation of small planetary transits by calculating the Bayesian odds ratio between the transiting planet scenario and all possible false positive scenarios for a given target star. Prior probabilities are computed for each scenario by combining information about the target, including that contained within ground-based follow-up observations, with knowledge of stellar multiplicity and planet occurrence rates. In addition, for false positive scenarios that involve an unresolved foreground or background star, TRILEGAL is used to simulate a population of stars around the line of sight to target to calculate the prior probability of such a chance alignment. Like in VESPA, these priors are combined with marginal likelihoods, which PASTIS calculates using importance sampling. However, unlike VESPA, PASTIS additionally models the radial velocities of its targets and uses physi-

cal light curve models in its analysis. Like those utilized with **BLENDER**, these light curve models are more complex than the trapezoidal model, meaning **PASTIS** must sample over a wider parameter space when computing the marginal likelihood of each scenario. While ensuring that all possible parameter combinations for each scenario are considered, this method requires significantly more time to run for a given target than **VESPA** does.

Each of the aforementioned procedures was designed to work with minimal information about a given target star in order to argue for the existence of a transiting planet around it. This design mainly grew out of necessity, as information about many planet candidate hosts and the region of sky in which they were located was sparse in the absence of additional observations. For instance, the number of stars within each pixel was often unknown, and the stars that were known were not always precisely characterized. These facts imposed limitations on the functionalities of the procedures. Specifically, they restricted testable false positive scenarios to those involving the target star and a single unresolved star, even though there could have been a multitude of unknown stars in the group of pixels used to extract a given light curve. Additionally, poorly characterized target stars forced these procedures to use stellar models and isochrone interpolation to estimate host star properties, which comes at the cost of computation time.

These design features make previous validation algorithms poorly optimized for use on planet candidates identified by the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (*TESS*, Ricker et al. 2010). *TESS* differs from *Kepler* by being an all-sky survey that focuses on the nearest and brightest stars in order to find planets that are well-suited for mass measurement and atmospheric characterization. However, this increased sky coverage comes at the cost of resolution. The *TESS* cameras contain pixels that span $21''$, which means each pixel covers an area of sky roughly $25\times$ larger than those utilized by *Kepler*. Because of this, the assumption that there is at most one additional star contributing to the flux in a given aperture is unlikely to be true. In addition to scenarios involving a bound stellar companion or a chance alignment of a non-associated star near the target star, a *TESS* validation procedure must be capable of considering false positive scenarios involving a multi-

tude of known stars near a given target.¹ While tools like **VESPA** have been used to validate planet candidates detected by *TESS* after ruling out false positives due to nearby stars with supplementary follow-up observations (e.g., Cloutier 2019; Günther et al. 2019; Quinn et al. 2019; Vanderspek et al. 2019; Cloutier et al. 2020; Eisner et al. 2020; Gilbert et al. 2020; Huang et al. 2020), no tool exists as of yet that can perform a multi-star analysis on its own.

Luckily, the drawback of decreased resolution is counteracted by the wealth of information on nearby stars provided by the second *Gaia* data release (DR2, Brown et al. 2018). DR2 provides optical photometry, astrometry, and positions for over one billion of the nearest stars in the Galaxy. Perhaps most importantly, it is reported that DR2 consistently resolves individual point sources that reside more than $2''/2$ apart, which allows for the identification of stars blended within a *TESS* pixel to levels previously only possible with supplementary follow-up. With this knowledge, one can test for false positive scenarios around known nearby stars and conduct more precise centroid analyses. In addition, the focus on nearby and bright stars means that most *TESS* planet candidate hosts can be more easily characterized using archival and follow-up data. In fact, the properties of millions of *TESS* targets have already been compiled in the *TESS* Input Catalog (TIC, Stassun et al. 2018). It would benefit a validation procedure for *TESS* planet candidates to leverage these known stellar properties, rather than use stellar models to estimate them.

In this work, we present **TRICERATOPS** (**T**ool for **R**ating **I**nteresting **C**andidate **E**xoplanets and **R**eliability **A**nalysis of **T**ransits **O**riginating from **P**roximate **S**tars), a new Bayesian tool formulated to validate and vet *TESS* planet candidates.² The procedure calculates the probabilities of a wide range of transit-producing scenarios using the primary transit of the planet candidate, preexisting knowledge of its host and nearby stars, and the current understanding of planet occurrence and stellar multiplicity.

Our tool is designed to provide fast³ and accurate calculations that can be used to not only validate transiting planet candidates, as validation tools have been used to

¹ It should be noted that because *TESS* focuses on brighter stars than *Kepler* did and the field density of brighter stars is low compared to the field density of fainter stars, most of these contaminating stars will contribute only a small fraction of the total flux within the pixel. By contrast, stars blended within a *Kepler* pixel had a higher probability of having comparable brightnesses.

² Available at <https://github.com/stevengiacalone/triceratops>.

³ Typical run time of about 5 minutes on a standard 2-core laptop for a single target.

Table 1. Scenarios Tested by TRICERATOPS

Scenario	Configuration	Parameter Vector, θ_j
TP	No unresolved companion. Transiting planet with P_{orb} around target star.	(i, R_p)
EB	No unresolved companion. Eclipsing binary with P_{orb} around target star.	(i, q_{short})
EBx2P	No unresolved companion. Eclipsing binary with $2 \times P_{\text{orb}}$ around target star.	(i, q_{short})
PTP	Unresolved bound companion. Transiting planet with P_{orb} around primary star.	$(i, R_p, q_{\text{long}})$
PEB	Unresolved bound companion. Eclipsing binary with P_{orb} around primary star.	$(i, q_{\text{short}}, q_{\text{long}})$
PEBx2P	Unresolved bound companion. Eclipsing binary with $2 \times P_{\text{orb}}$ around primary star.	$(i, q_{\text{short}}, q_{\text{long}})$
STP	Unresolved bound companion. Transiting planet with P_{orb} around secondary star.	$(i, R_p, q_{\text{long}})$
SEB	Unresolved bound companion. Eclipsing binary with P_{orb} around secondary star.	$(i, q_{\text{short}}, q_{\text{long}})$
SEBx2P	Unresolved bound companion. Eclipsing binary with $2 \times P_{\text{orb}}$ around secondary star.	$(i, q_{\text{short}}, q_{\text{long}})$
DTP	Unresolved background star. Transiting planet with P_{orb} around target star.	$(i, R_p, \text{simulated star})$
DEB	Unresolved background star. Eclipsing binary with P_{orb} around target star.	$(i, q_{\text{short}}, \text{simulated star})$
DEBx2P	Unresolved background star. Eclipsing binary with $2 \times P_{\text{orb}}$ around target star.	$(i, q_{\text{short}}, \text{simulated star})$
BTP	Unresolved background star. Transiting planet with P_{orb} around background star.	$(i, R_p, \text{simulated star})$
BEB	Unresolved background star. Eclipsing binary with P_{orb} around background star.	$(i, q_{\text{short}}, \text{simulated star})$
BEBx2P	Unresolved background star. Eclipsing binary with $2 \times P_{\text{orb}}$ around background star.	$(i, q_{\text{short}}, \text{simulated star})$
NTP	No unresolved companion. Transiting planet with P_{orb} around nearby star.	(i, R_p)
NEB	No unresolved companion. Eclipsing binary with P_{orb} around nearby star.	(i, q_{short})
NEBx2P	No unresolved companion. Eclipsing binary with $2 \times P_{\text{orb}}$ around nearby star.	(i, q_{short})

do in the past, but also to serve as a metric for ranking targets of follow-up programs. Because a majority of *TESS* targets will be bright enough to be followed up with ground-based telescopes, there will inevitably be more planet candidate hosts to observe from the ground than time and resources allow for. We therefore encourage the use of our tool to identify targets that would benefit most from additional vetting.

The layout of this paper is as follows. In Section 2 we present our vetting and validation procedure, including how we determine the possible scenarios for a given target star and calculate the probability of each. In Section 3 we present detailed statistical validation results for a confirmed planet and for a known false positive. In Section 4 we present the results of our calculations for a sample of 68 TOIs that are known planets or false positives, conduct a performance assessment, and define the criteria a TOI must meet in order to be validated. In Section 5 we report observations that identify several TOIs as false positives originating from nearby stars and compare these observations with TRICERATOPS predictions. In Section 6 we apply our tool to 384 unclassified TOIs and statistically validate 12. In Section 7 we provide a discussion of our results, provide suggestions for how our tool can best be utilized, and present features that we plan on implementing in the future. Lastly, we provide concluding remarks in Section 8.

2. PROCEDURE

Our validation procedure is initiated when the user inputs the ID a target star listed in the *TESS* Input Catalog (TIC) that has a transiting planet candidate. Using the MAST module of *astroquery* (Ginsburg et al. 2019), the tool queries the TIC for all stars within a circle of radius 10 pixels from the target. The positions, *TESS* magnitudes, and available stellar properties of each star are recorded for later use. Next, the user is required to specify the aperture used to extract the *TESS* light curve for each sector in which the target was observed. The remaining steps of the procedure are summarized as follows:

1. TRICERATOPS calculates the proportion of flux contributed to the aperture by each star near the target. Using the user-entered transit depth, the algorithm identifies the stars bright enough to produce the observed transit-like signal.
2. Using the user-entered primary transit of the planet candidate and light curve models of transiting planets and eclipsing binaries, TRICERATOPS calculates the marginal likelihood of each transit-producing scenario.
3. Given the marginal likelihood and prior probability of each scenario, the algorithm calculates the probability of each scenario.
4. The algorithm uses these probabilities to determine if the planet candidate can be classified as a

validated planet, a likely planet, or a likely nearby false positive.

2.1. Flux Ratio Calculation

Initially, each star within 10 pixels of the target is considered a potential origin of the transit-like event. Because each star is contributing a different amount of flux to the aperture, the size that the transiting object must be to produce the observed transit depth is different for each star. Because the transiting object size is important for determining the probability of each scenario, the relative flux contributed by each star in the aperture is essential information.

We calculate the flux ratio contributed by each star using a method similar to that used in [Stassun et al. \(2018\)](#) to determine the contamination ratios reported for candidate target stars in the TIC. Specifically, we assume the point spread function (PSF) of each star takes the form of a circular 2D Gaussian where the area under each Gaussian (i.e., the total flux) is determined using the *TESS* magnitudes reported in the TIC. We estimate the standard deviation of the Gaussian using the *TESS* pixel response function (PRF) models on MAST.⁴ Due to effects relating to the design of the *TESS* optics, the exact PRF for a star is dependent on the location on the CCD on which it is observed. These models allow one to estimate the PRF for a given star by providing the size and shape of the *TESS* PRF at 25 locations on each CCD. We fit each PRF model to a circular 2D Gaussian and record the best-fit standard deviation, finding that it typically ranges between 0.6 and 0.9 pixels. For simplicity, we adopt a standard deviation of 0.75 pixels for all stars, regardless of CCD location. For each star, we integrate the flux in the aperture and divide by the total flux contributed to the aperture by all stars to determine its flux ratio, X_s . For targets that are observed in multiple sectors, we assume the flux ratio for a given star is the average of its flux ratios across each sector.

To ensure that our method provides reliable flux ratios, we compare in Figure 1 the target star flux ratios for 228 TOIs obtained using our method with those reported by the *TESS* Science Processing Operations Center (SPOC) pipeline ([Jenkins et al. 2016](#)), which calculates flux ratios using the actual PRF models discussed above.⁵ Both of these calculations are carried out with the aperture used by the *TESS* SPOC pipeline to extract

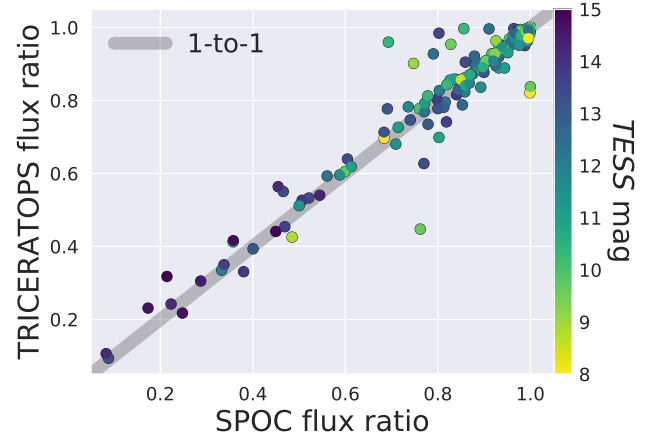


Figure 1. Comparison of target star flux ratios (i.e., the fraction of the flux in the aperture due to the target star) reported by TRICERATOPS and the *TESS* SPOC pipeline for a 228 TOIs. A 1-to-1 line is also shown for illustrative purposes. The two methods yield consistent results, with slightly larger discrepancies for brighter stars.

the light curve of the target star. The figure shows good agreement between the two calculations, with a slightly better agreement for fainter stars.

After flux ratios are determined, we eliminate stars that are too faint to be the source of the observed dimming event. If the observed transit depth is δ_{obs} , the relative transit depth for each star is simply $\delta_s = \delta_{\text{obs}}/X_s$. For stars that contribute relatively little flux to the aperture, it is possible for δ_s to exceed unity. We exclude these stars from further analysis.

2.2. Transit Scenario Identification

After calculating the flux ratio for each star in the aperture, we determine the scenarios that can produce the observed transit-like event. Our procedure considers a total of fifteen scenarios for the target star and an additional three scenarios for each nearby star with $\delta_s < 1$. These scenarios are summarized in Table 1.

The fifteen target star scenarios can be classified into three configurations. The first is the case where the target star has no unresolved stellar companion (where we define “companion” to encompass both bound and foreground/background stars). In this case, we consider the scenarios of a transiting planet with the reported orbital period around the target star (TP), an EB with the reported orbital period around the target star (EB), and an EB with twice the reported orbital period around the target star (EBx2P). The last of these scenarios is meant to capture the possibility that the observed transit is caused by eclipsing binary stars of roughly equal size, such that the primary and secondary eclipses are mistaken for the primary transit of a smaller object with

⁴ <https://archive.stsci.edu/missions-and-data/transiting-exoplanet-survey-satellite-tes>

⁵ Note that the decision to use Gaussian models rather than the actual *TESS* PRFs for our calculation was made in the interest of computational expediency.

half the orbital period. The second configuration is that in which the target star has an unresolved bound stellar companion. In this case, we consider the scenarios of a transiting around the target star with the reported orbital period (Primary TP, or PTP), an eclipsing binary with the reported orbital period around the target star (Primary EB, or PEB), an eclipsing binary with twice the reported orbital period around the target star (Primary EBx2P, or PEBx2P), a transiting planet with the reported orbital period around the companion (Secondary TP, or STP), an eclipsing binary around the companion (Secondary EB, or SEB), and an eclipsing binary with twice the reported orbital period around the companion (Secondary EBx2P, or SEBx2P). The third configuration is that in which there is an unresolved foreground or background star along the line of sight to the target star. In this case, we again consider the scenarios of a transiting planet with the reported orbital period around the target star (Diluted TP, or DTP), an eclipsing binary with the reported orbital period around the target star (Diluted EB, or DEB), an eclipsing binary with twice the reported orbital period around the target star (Diluted EBx2P, or DEBx2P), a transiting planet with the reported orbital period around the companion (Background TP, or BTP), an eclipsing binary with the reported orbital period around the companion (Background EB, or BEB), and an eclipsing binary with twice the reported orbital period around the companion (Background EBx2P, or BEBx2P).⁶

For nearby stars with $\delta_s < 1$, we also consider the scenarios of a transiting planet with the reported orbital period around that star (Nearby TP, or NTP), an eclipsing binary with the reported orbital period around that star (Nearby EB, or NEB), and an eclipsing binary with twice the reported orbital period around that star (Nearby EBx2P, or NEBx2P). Each of these scenarios operates under the assumption that the nearby star has no unresolved stellar companion. These scenarios can also be omitted by the calculation if false positives originating from the respective nearby stars have been ruled out through supplementary follow-up.

2.3. Stellar Property Estimation

Whenever possible, we use the stellar properties listed in the TIC in our calculations. However, for reasons that will be discussed, there are times in our procedure where we must estimate the properties (i.e., mass M_\star , radius

R_\star , and effective temperature T_{eff}) of a star in order to determine the probability of the corresponding scenario. We do so using the empirical and semi-empirical relations between stellar properties used to populate these fields in the TIC.

For stars with $M_\star > 0.63M_\odot$ (corresponding roughly to $T_{\text{eff}} > 4000$ K), we determine stellar properties using the results from [Torres et al. \(2010a\)](#). Using the same method discussed in Section 3 of [Stassun et al. \(2018\)](#), we draw spline curves through the distribution of points in $M_\star - T_{\text{eff}}$ and $M_\star - R_\star$ space. For stars with $M_\star \leq 0.63M_\odot$, we repeat this process using a sample of stars from the specially curated *TESS* Cool dwarf Catalog ([Muirhead et al. 2018](#)). We select nodal points using the sample such that they are continuous with the curves obtained for hotter stars.

The spline curves and the samples on which they are based are shown in Figure 2. The result of this process is a set of relations that allows us to estimate the R_\star and T_{eff} of a star given M_\star .

2.4. Probability Calculation

We employ a Bayesian framework in our procedure, and thus make use of Bayes' theorem:

$$p(S_j|D) \propto p(S_j)p(D|S_j) \quad (1)$$

where $p(S_j|D)$ is the posterior probability of the j th scenario S_j given the data D , $p(S_j)$ is the prior probability of scenario S_j , and $p(D|S_j)$ is the marginal likelihood of the data D given the scenario S_j (sometimes also referred to as the global likelihood, or the Bayesian evidence). Because we work with a transit model characterized by the parameter vector θ_j , we express the marginal likelihood as the marginalization of the likelihood $p(D|\theta_j, S_j)$ over θ_j :

$$p(D|S_j) = \int p(\theta_j|S_j)p(D|\theta_j, S_j)d\theta \quad (2)$$

where $p(\theta_j|S_j)$ is the prior distribution of the model parameters. We discuss how these quantities are calculated throughout the remainder of this section.

After calculating $p(S_j|D)$ for each scenario, we determine the relative probability of each scenario using the equation

$$\mathcal{P}_j = \frac{p(S_j|D)}{\sum_j p(S_j|D)}. \quad (3)$$

From here, we define two quantities that are useful for vetting and validation purposes. First, the “False Positive Probability” (FPP) is given by

$$\text{FPP} = 1 - (\mathcal{P}_{\text{TP}} + \mathcal{P}_{\text{PTP}} + \mathcal{P}_{\text{DTP}}). \quad (4)$$

⁶ The BTP and BEB scenarios also include unresolved foreground stars, but the case where a background star is blended with the target star is typically the relevant one.

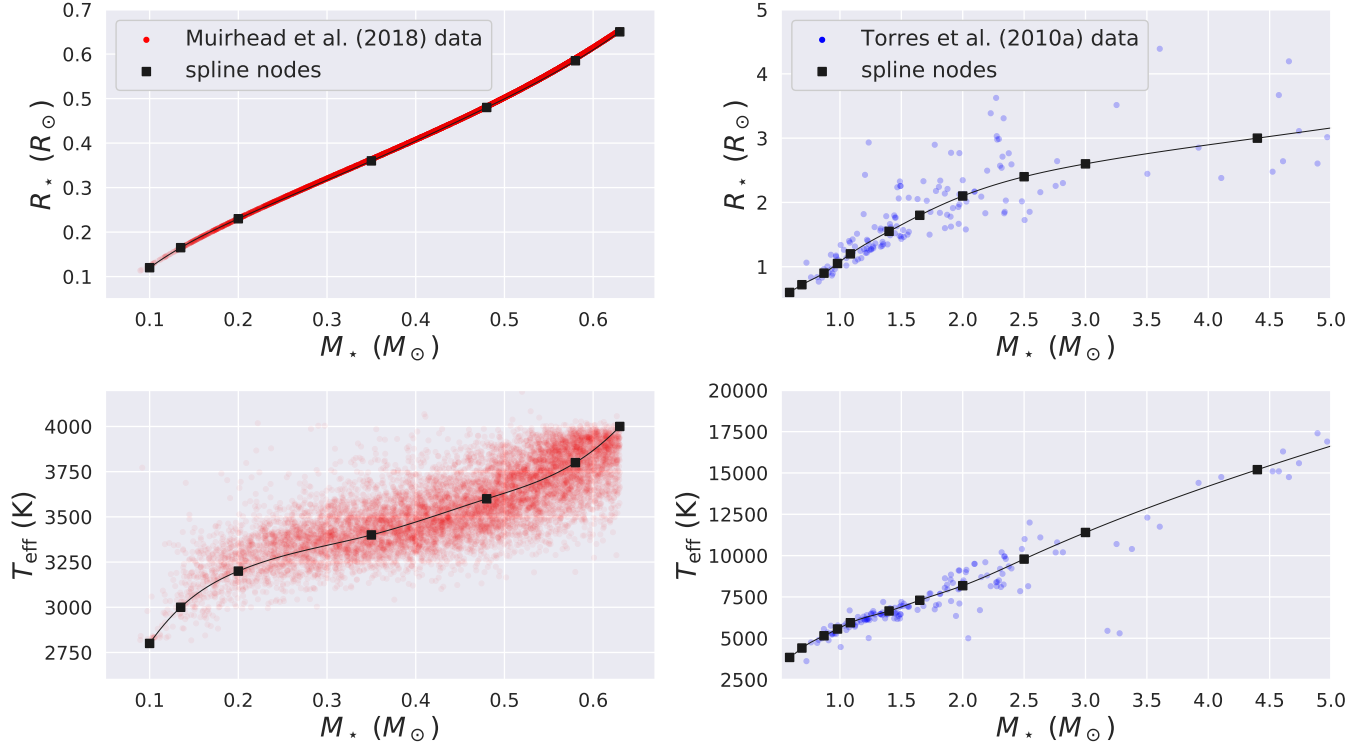


Figure 2. *Left:* R_* and T_{eff} vs M_* for stars in the *TESS* Cool dwarf Catalog. Red points are stars from the catalog, and black squares are nodes used to draw spline relations through these points. *Right:* R_* and T_{eff} vs M_* for stars in [Torres et al. \(2010a\)](#). Blue points are stars from [Torres et al. \(2010a\)](#), and black squares are nodes used to draw spline relations through these points.

This quantity represents the probability that the observed transit is due to something other than a transiting planet around the target star. Second, the “Nearby False Positive Probability” (NFPP) is given by

$$\text{NFPP} = \sum (\mathcal{P}_{\text{NTP}} + \mathcal{P}_{\text{NEB}} + \mathcal{P}_{\text{NEBx2P}}) \quad (5)$$

(i.e., the sum of all scenarios involving nearby stars). This quantity represents the probability that the observed transit originates from a resolved nearby star rather than the target star.

2.4.1. Scenario Priors

The scenario prior represents the prior probability of a given scenario before the data is considered. The only scenario prior we employ in our calculation is the probability of a transiting planet or eclipsing binary having the P_{orb} applied to the model. For both transiting planets and eclipsing binaries, we assume the probability distribution of P_{orb} takes the form of a broken power law in the range 0.1 – 50 days. Using these probability distributions, we calculate the prior probability of an orbital period P'_{orb} by integrating the probability distribution between $P'_{\text{orb}} - 0.1$ and $P'_{\text{orb}} + 0.1$:

$$p(P'_{\text{orb}}) = \int_{P'_{\text{orb}} - 0.1}^{P'_{\text{orb}} + 0.1} p(P_{\text{orb}}) dP_{\text{orb}}. \quad (6)$$

For transiting planets we base the behavior of this distribution on studies of planet occurrence rates as a function of orbital period (e.g., [Howard et al. 2012](#); [Dong & Zhu 2013](#); [Petigura et al. 2013](#); [Dressing & Charbonneau 2015](#); [Mulders et al. 2015b, 2018](#)). We express $p(P_{\text{orb}})$ as a broken power law with a break at $P_{\text{orb}} = 10$ days and the form

$$p(P_{\text{orb}}) \sim \begin{cases} P_{\text{orb}}^{1.5} & 0.1 \text{ days} \leq P_{\text{orb}} \leq 10 \text{ days} \\ P_{\text{orb}}^{0.0} & 10 \text{ days} < P_{\text{orb}} \leq 50 \text{ days} \end{cases}. \quad (7)$$

Note that while planet occurrence is typically expressed as a non-separable function of both planet radius and P_{orb} , we treat the two variables as independent in our calculation procedure.

For eclipsing binaries we base the behavior of this distribution on the results of the *Kepler* Eclipsing Binary Catalog ([Kirk et al. 2016](#)), which contains the properties of thousands of objects that were classified as EBs based on their light curve morphologies. After correcting the catalog for eclipsing binaries that were not detected due to orbital misalignment, we find that $p(P_{\text{orb}})$ is best expressed as a broken power law with a break at $P_{\text{orb}} = 0.3$ days and the form

$$p(P_{\text{orb}}) \sim \begin{cases} P_{\text{orb}}^{5.0} & 0.1 \text{ days} \leq P_{\text{orb}} \leq 0.3 \text{ days} \\ P_{\text{orb}}^{0.5} & 0.3 \text{ days} < P_{\text{orb}} \leq 50 \text{ days} \end{cases}. \quad (8)$$

It is common for validation procedures to also include priors that capture the overall planet occurrence and stellar multiplicity rate. Planet occurrence rate studies have revealed that the probability of a FGKM dwarf hosting a planet with $P_{\text{orb}} < 50$ days ranges from 10 – 100%, decreasing as a function of increasing host star mass (e.g., [Fressin et al. 2013](#); [Petigura et al. 2013](#); [Dressing & Charbonneau 2015](#)). Stellar multiplicity rate studies have determined that the probability of a FGKM dwarf hosting a stellar companion with $P_{\text{orb}} < 50$ days ranges from 1 – 10%, increasing as a function of increasing host mass ([Moe & Di Stefano 2017](#)). This implies that all scenarios involving transiting planets should have a prior probability 10 – 100 \times higher than those involving eclipsing binaries. At first, we included this prior in the algorithm. However, after testing the performance of our tool on known transiting planets and astrophysical false positives (see Section 4), we concluded that the prior gave transiting planet scenarios too much of an advantage. This advantage often caused an underestimation of FPP, which led the algorithm to classify astrophysical false positives as transiting planets. To avoid this apparent bias, we omit these priors from our calculation procedure.

2.4.2. Parameter Prior Distributions

Every scenario we test is associated with a vector θ_j of parameters that are needed for modeling the light curves of each scenario. The parameters that compose these vectors for each scenario are shown in Table 1. To reflect the fact that certain values of these parameters are more common than others, each is associated with a probability distribution. In this section, we define each of these parameters and their respective probability distributions. Examples of these distributions are shown in Figure 3 for a sample size of 10^6 .

The parameter i represents the inclination of the orbit of a transiting planet or eclipsing binary. Assuming an isotropic distribution of orbits, the distribution of inclinations takes the form

$$p(i) \sim \sin i. \quad (9)$$

The parameter R_p represents the radius of a transiting planet. Because this distribution is known to be dependent on host star mass, we use different distributions for M dwarfs and FGK dwarfs. The two distributions differ in the prevalence of giant planets ($R_p > 6R_{\oplus}$), which are known to be less common around M dwarfs than they are around their more massive counterparts by a factor of ~ 10 (e.g., [Dressing & Charbonneau 2013](#); [Fressin et al. 2013](#); [Petigura et al. 2013](#); [Mulders et al. 2015a](#)). We express these distributions as broken power

laws with breaks at $R_p = 3R_{\oplus}$ and $R_p = 6R_{\oplus}$ and a range of $R_p = 0.5 - 20R_{\oplus}$ (e.g., [Mulders et al. 2015a, 2018](#)).⁷ For M dwarfs the distribution takes the form

$$p(R_p) \sim \begin{cases} R_p^{0.0} & 0.5R_{\oplus} \leq R_p \leq 3R_{\oplus} \\ R_p^{-7.0} & 3R_{\oplus} < R_p \leq 6R_{\oplus} \\ R_p^{-0.5} & 6R_{\oplus} < R_p \leq 20R_{\oplus} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

and for FGK dwarfs the distribution takes the form

$$p(R_p) \sim \begin{cases} R_p^{0.0} & 0.5R_{\oplus} \leq R_p \leq 3R_{\oplus} \\ R_p^{-4.0} & 3R_{\oplus} < R_p \leq 6R_{\oplus} \\ R_p^{-0.5} & 6R_{\oplus} < R_p \leq 20R_{\oplus} \end{cases}. \quad (11)$$

The parameter q_{short} represents the mass ratio between the host star and a short-period stellar companion (i.e., an eclipsing binary). To calculate this distribution, we extrapolate from the results of [Moe & Di Stefano \(2017\)](#) for Sun-like stars. In the study, q is parameterized as a broken power law with a break at $q = 0.3$ and a range of $q = 0.1 - 1.0$. In addition, the parameterization takes into account the excess of stellar “twins” (stellar companions with $q > 0.95$) with a term $\mathcal{F}_{\text{twin}}$ (defined as the fraction of stars with $q > 0.3$ that have $q > 0.95$) that boosts the prevalence of these stars in the probability distribution. For short-period stellar companions, the distribution takes the form

$$p(q_{\text{short}}) \sim \begin{cases} q_{\text{short}}^{0.3} & 0.1 \leq q \leq 0.3 \\ q_{\text{short}}^{-5.0} & 0.3 < q \leq 1.0 \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

with $\mathcal{F}_{\text{twin}} = 0.3$.

The parameter q_{long} represents the mass ratio between the target star and a long-period stellar companion (i.e., an unresolved bound companion). Again, we utilize the parameterization and extrapolate results of [Moe & Di Stefano \(2017\)](#) for Sun-like stars. For long-period stellar companions, the distribution takes the form

$$p(q_{\text{long}}) \sim \begin{cases} q_{\text{long}}^{0.3} & 0.1 \leq q \leq 0.3 \\ q_{\text{long}}^{-0.95} & 0.3 < q \leq 1.0 \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

with $\mathcal{F}_{\text{twin}} = 0.05$.

The parameter “simulated star” represents the properties of a star drawn from a population of stars simulated with TRILEGAL. To determine the properties of blended stars used in DTP, DEB, DEBx2P, BTP, BEB, and BEBx2P scenarios, we simulate a population of stars in a 0.1 deg^2 region of the sky centered at the target star. We then produce a distribution of possible

⁷ Note that we do not model the gap in the radius distribution between $1.5 - 2.0R_{\oplus}$ ([Fulton et al. 2017](#)).

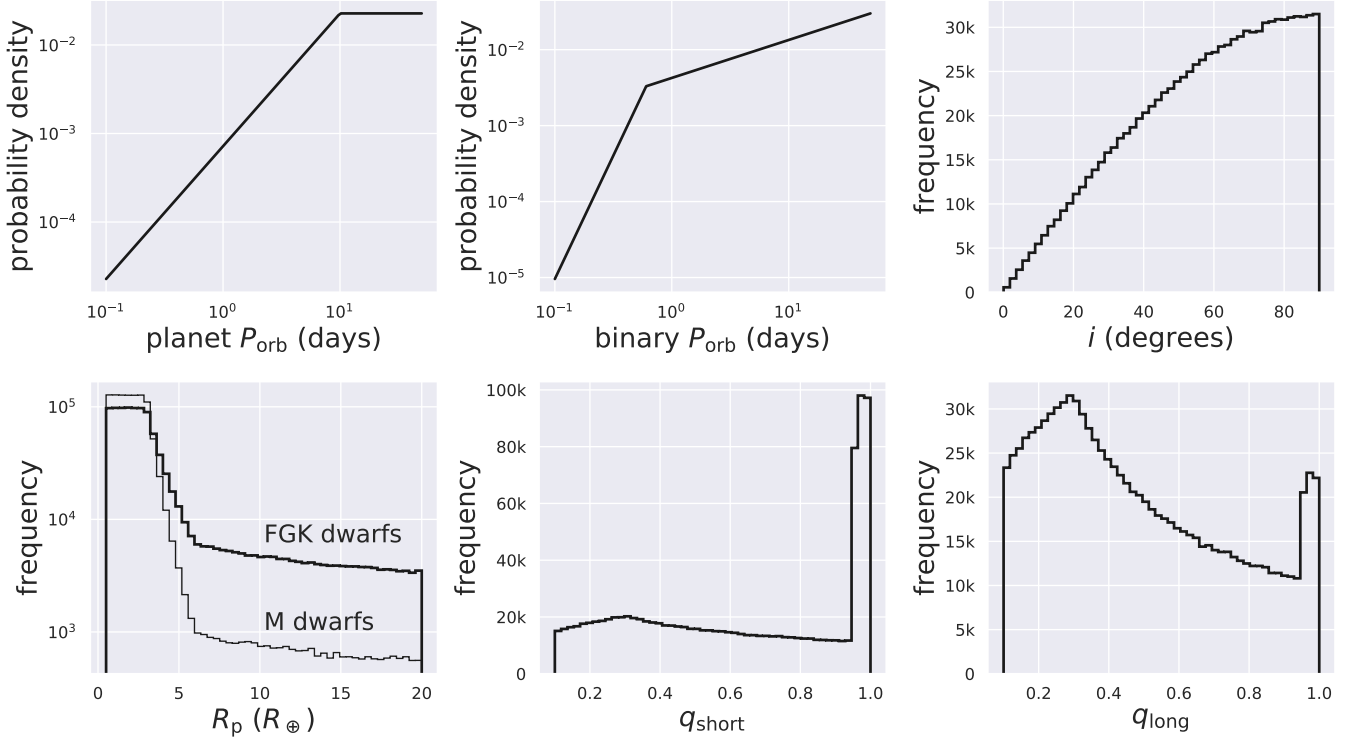


Figure 3. Visualizations of the distributions used to determine model priors and sample parameters in our calculations. *Top left:* The probability density function for the orbital periods of transiting planets. *Top center:* The probability density function for the orbital periods of eclipsing binaries. *Top right:* The parameter prior distribution for inclination. *Bottom left:* The parameter prior distribution for planet radius. *Bottom center:* The parameter prior distribution for short-period stellar companion mass ratio. *Bottom right:* The parameter prior distribution for long-period stellar companion mass ratio.

foreground/background stars by removing all stars with *TESS* magnitudes brighter than the target and fainter than 21, which typically yields between 300–1000 stars. When simulating an instance of these scenarios, we draw a star directly from this distribution.

2.4.3. Marginal Likelihoods

Because the integral in Equation 2 is typically impossible to solve analytically, it is common to approximate the integral by sampling $p(\theta_j|S_j)$. This is, in fact, what is done when calculating odds ratios between competing scenarios in the **PASTIS** and **VESPA** validation procedures. In this work, we calculate the marginal likelihood using Arithmetic Mean Estimation (Kass & Raftery 1995). This method allows us to calculate the marginal likelihood using Monte Carlo sampling by approximating Equation 2 as

$$p(D|S_j) \sim \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N p(D|\theta_j^{(n)}, S_j) \quad (14)$$

where $\theta_j^{(n)}$ is the n th sample from the parameter prior distribution and N is the total number of samples. This is typically regarded as the simplest estimator of the

marginal likelihood, but it is often avoided because it can produce a large variance in $p(D|S_j)$ if N is not sufficiently high and is relatively inefficient when integrating over a large number of parameters. We take two approaches to combat these drawbacks: (1) we chose a N high enough to produce results that are consistent between consecutive calculations (which we determine to be $N = 10^6$), and (2) we make simplifying assumptions in our transiting planet and eclipsing binary models that minimize the number of parameters we must marginalize over.

The first simplifying assumption we make is to assume that the M_\star , R_\star and T_{eff} of each resolved star is known precisely. Unless the user provides these parameters, they are assumed to be equal to those listed in the TIC. In addition, any other stars added to our transit model that do not have estimates for these quantities (e.g., eclipsing binaries or unresolved companions) are assumed to be precisely characterized based on their M_\star (see Section 2.3). Because the transit models are sensitive to these parameters, this assumption saves us from having to marginalize over a distribution of target star properties.

The second simplifying assumption we make is to assume a fixed orbital period and zero eccentricity (e) in all scenarios considered, which significantly simplifies the orbital solution of the system. There is strong evidence that short-period planets are biased towards lower e (e.g., Kane et al. 2012; Kipping 2013; Shabram et al. 2016). According to the NASA Exoplanet Archive,⁸ 84% of confirmed planets with $P_{\text{orb}} < 30$ days and reported eccentricities have $e < 0.2$. The same justification can be applied to short-period eclipsing binaries. Moe & Di Stefano (2017), showed that the e distribution of binary stars with $P_{\text{orb}} < 10$ days goes like $e^{-0.8}$. This implies that 72% of short-period eclipsing binaries have $e < 0.2$. Because a majority of TOIs will have $P_{\text{orb}} < 30$ days (due to the ~ 27 day intervals in which sectors are observed and the general requirement for at least 2 transits be observed for a system to become a planet candidate), we believe the assumption of circular orbits is justified in most cases. However, users of TRICERATOPS should be aware that this assumption becomes less valid as longer orbital periods are considered.

We calculate $p(D|\theta_j^{(n)}, S_j)$ as the product of two terms:

$$p(D|\theta_j^{(n)}, S_j) = p(D_{\text{tra}}|\theta_j^{(n)}, S_j) \times w^{(n)} \quad (15)$$

where the first term is the likelihood of the transit data and $w^{(n)}$ is a weight that encapsulates our ability to rule out unresolved companions near the target star using high-resolution imaging follow-up. This weight is intended to decrease the likelihood of scenarios involving unresolved companions when stronger constraints on the existence such companions are applied.

The likelihood of the transit data is calculated using the equation

$$p(D_{\text{tra}}|\theta_j^{(n)}, S_j) \propto \prod \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y_l - f(t_l|\theta_j^{(n)})}{\sigma} \right)^2 \right] \quad (16)$$

where y_l is the flux of the l th data point, $f(t_l|\theta_j^{(n)})$ is the flux given by the model for the parameter vector $\theta_j^{(n)}$ at the time of the l th data point, and σ is the characteristic uncertainty of the flux.

For PTP, PEB, PEBx2P, STP, SEB, and SEBx2P scenarios we calculate $w^{(n)}$ using Equation 23 of Moe & Di Stefano (2017). Equation 23 of Moe & Di Stefano (2017) provides the frequency of bound stellar companions as a function of primary mass and orbital period. We calculate this quantity for the n th sample of the

parameter prior distribution using the following steps: (1) determine magnitude difference between the primary and secondary star using the mass of the target and the n th draw of q_{long} , (2) use the contrast curve obtained from high-resolution imaging to determine the angular separation beyond which the simulated secondary would have been detected, (3) convert this angular separation to an orbital period using the parallax of the target and the masses of the target and simulated secondary, and (4) use this orbital period and Equation 23 of Moe & Di Stefano (2017) to calculate the corresponding frequency of bound stellar companions. If no high-resolution imaging data is available to fold in, the angular separation used in step (2) is assumed to be $2''.2$ (Brown et al. 2018).

For DTP, DEB, DEBx2P, BTP, BEB, and BEBx2P scenarios we calculate $w^{(n)}$ using the results of the TRI-LEGAL simulation discussed in Section 2.4.2. Specifically, we calculate this likelihood as the frequency of unresolved foreground and background stars aligned with the target star in the sky. This calculation is performed with the following steps: (1) determine the magnitude difference between the target star and the n th drawn foreground/background star, (2) use the contrast curve obtained from high-resolution imaging to determine the angular separation beyond which the simulated foreground/background star would have been detected, (3) use this separation and the total number of simulated stars to estimate the frequency of unresolved foreground/background stars near the target. As for the previous scenarios, if no high-resolution imaging data is available to fold in, the angular separation used in step (2) is assumed to be $2''.2$ (Brown et al. 2018).

We set the maximum value of $w^{(n)}$ for each scenario to 1. We also set $w^{(n)} = 1$ for TP, EB, EBx2P, NTP, NEB, and NEBx2P scenarios, which do not involve unresolved companions.

2.4.4. Light Curve Modeling

We calculate Equation 16 by modeling light curves using a modified version of *batman* (Kreidberg 2015). Here, we describe the steps that go into simulating the transits of each scenario.

The simplest scenario to model is the TP scenario, in which we assume that all of the flux originates from the host star. For this scenario, we use *batman* in its default form. For this scenario, as well as all other scenarios, we use quadratic limb darkening coefficients chosen based on the T_{eff} and $\log g$ of the host star (Claret 2018).

For all scenarios involving eclipsing binaries, we must account for the fact that the flux is split between the host star and the short-period companion. Doing so requires

⁸ <https://exoplanetarchive.ipac.caltech.edu/>

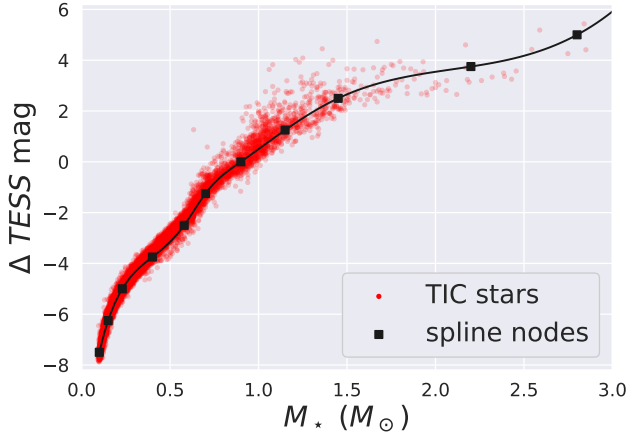


Figure 4. Δ *TESS* magnitude between a star of mass M_* and a 10th magnitude, $1M_\odot$ star. Red points are stars queried from the TIC located between 99 – 101 pc away. Black squares are the nodes of the spline relation used to calculate the *TESS* mag of unresolved stars modeled in our calculations.

an estimate for the flux contributed by the eclipsing binary, which we find by determining a relation between M_* and *TESS* magnitude. We begin by querying the TIC for all stars located a distance between 99 – 101 pc away. We then draw a spline curve through the distribution of points in the *TESS* magnitude – M_* plane, which is shown in Figure 4. This relation allows us to calculate the *TESS* band flux ratio between two stars given their masses and adjust the in-transit flux of the light curve accordingly.

For scenarios involving unresolved companions, we again must account for the flux dilution from the additional star. For scenarios involving a unresolved bound companion (whose mass is determined by q_{long}), we use the spline relation shown in Figure 4 to determine the flux contribution of the star. For scenarios involving an unresolved foreground/background star, we use the *TESS* magnitude provided by TRILEGAL to determine the flux contribution of the star.

Lastly, we apply constraints to our transit models for all “EB” and “EBx2P” scenarios. For the former, we require $q_{\text{short}} < 0.95$ and for the expected secondary eclipse depth to be shallower than $1.5\times$ the scatter of the *TESS* light curve flux (else the secondary eclipse would have been detected and identified as such). For the latter, we require $q_{\text{short}} > 0.95$. If the n th model light curve does not satisfy these conditions, we set the likelihood of the transit to zero.

3. EXAMPLES

For illustrative purposes we display here each step of our calculation for two TOIs, one of which has been

confirmed as a transiting planet and one of which has been ruled out as a nearby eclipsing binary.

3.1. TIC 270380593 (TOI 465.01)

We apply our algorithm on the previously-confirmed TOI 465.01 (WASP-156b, Demangeon et al. 2018), a $\sim 6R_\oplus$ planet orbiting a K dwarf with a 3.84 day orbital period. The host star, which has a *TESS* magnitude of 10.73 and is located 122 pc away, was observed with a 2-minute cadence in sector 4.

We begin by searching for all other stars within 10 pixels of the target star. This is shown in Figure 5, where the location of each nearby star relative to the local *TESS* pixels is shown on the left and the corresponding *TESS* image is shown on the right. Next, we calculate the flux contribution of each star and determine which contribute enough flux to the aperture to produce a transit with the reported depth. In this case, the target star is the only star bright enough to host the signal. We therefore ignore NTP, NEB, and NEBx2P scenarios for the remainder of this analysis, which leaves 15 scenarios to be considered.

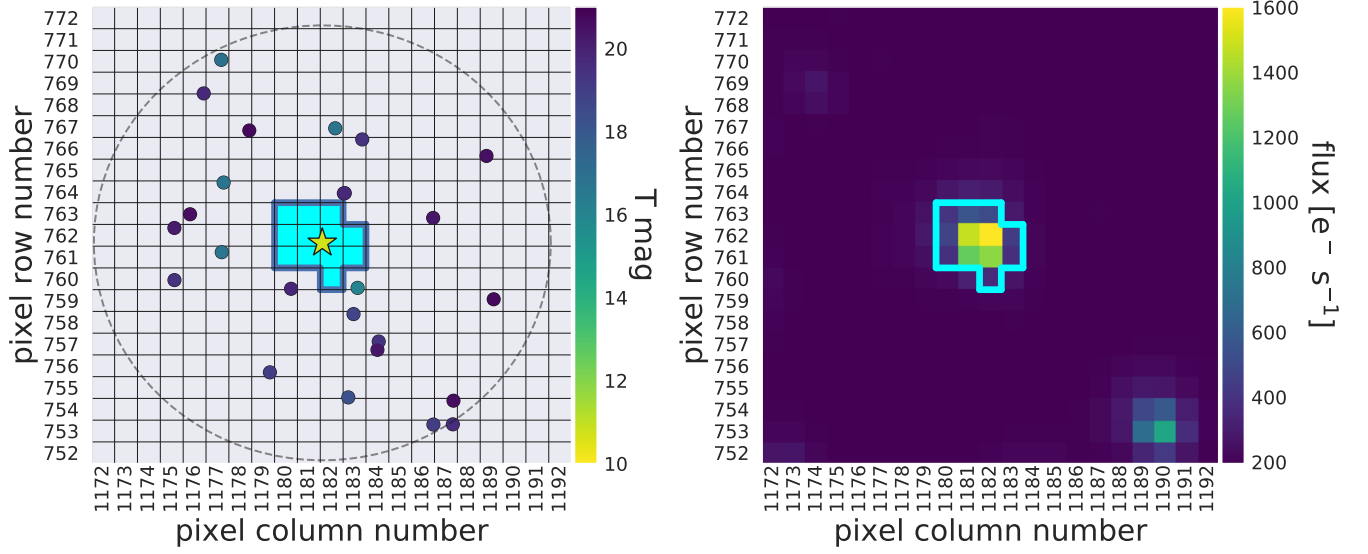


Figure 5. Visualization of TIC querying for TOI 465.01 (TIC 270380593). Left: All stars within 10 pixels of the target star (the limits of which are approximated by the black dashed line). The target star is located in the center pixel and is indicated by a star symbol. The aperture used to extract the light curve is highlighted in blue. Right: Time-averaged *TESS* image of the same pixels, with the same aperture overlaid.

Table 2. Scenario Probabilities for TOI 465.01

Scenario	TIC ID	$M_{\star} (M_{\odot})$	$R_{\star} (R_{\odot})$	$P_{\text{orb}} \text{ (days)}$	$i \text{ (deg)}$	$R_p (R_{\oplus})$	$R_{\text{EB}} (R_{\odot})$	\mathcal{P}_j	$\mathcal{P}_j \text{ with AO}$
TP	270380593	0.81	0.85	3.84	87.3	6.27		0.39	0.61
EB	270380593	0.81	0.85	3.84	85.3		0.10	< 0.01	< 0.01
EBx2P	270380593	0.81	0.85	7.67	85.3		0.84	< 0.01	< 0.01
PTP	270380593	0.81	0.85	3.84	87.4	6.35		0.22	0.14
PEB	270380593	0.81	0.85	3.84	86.4		0.10	< 0.01	< 0.01
PEBx2P	270380593	0.81	0.85	7.67	85.4		0.83	< 0.01	< 0.01
STP	270380593	0.79	0.82	3.84	87.8	8.71		0.31	0.19
SEB	270380593	0.63	0.65	3.84	89.8		0.10	0.01	< 0.01
SEBx2P	270380593	0.48	0.49	7.67	87.3		0.49	< 0.01	< 0.01
DTP	270380593	0.81	0.85	3.84	87.5	6.26		0.06	0.06
DEB	270380593	0.81	0.85	3.84	85.7		0.10	< 0.01	< 0.01
DEBx2P	270380593	0.81	0.85	7.67	85.3		0.83	< 0.01	< 0.01
BTP	270380593	0.55	0.48	3.84	89.3	19.36		< 0.01	< 0.01
BEB	270380593	0.81	0.75	3.84	89.7		0.19	< 0.01	< 0.01
BEBx2P	270380593	0.83	1.01	7.67	85.4		0.85	< 0.01	< 0.01
TIC ^a	270380593	$0.81^{+0.10}_{-0.10}$	$0.85^{+0.06}_{-0.06}$						
WASP-156b ^b	270380593	$0.84^{+0.05}_{-0.05}$	$0.76^{+0.03}_{-0.03}$		$89.1^{+0.6}_{-0.9}$	$5.72^{+0.22}_{-0.22}$			

^a Host star properties from version 8 of the TIC (Stassun et al. 2018).

^b Best-fit host star and planet properties from Demangeon et al. (2018).

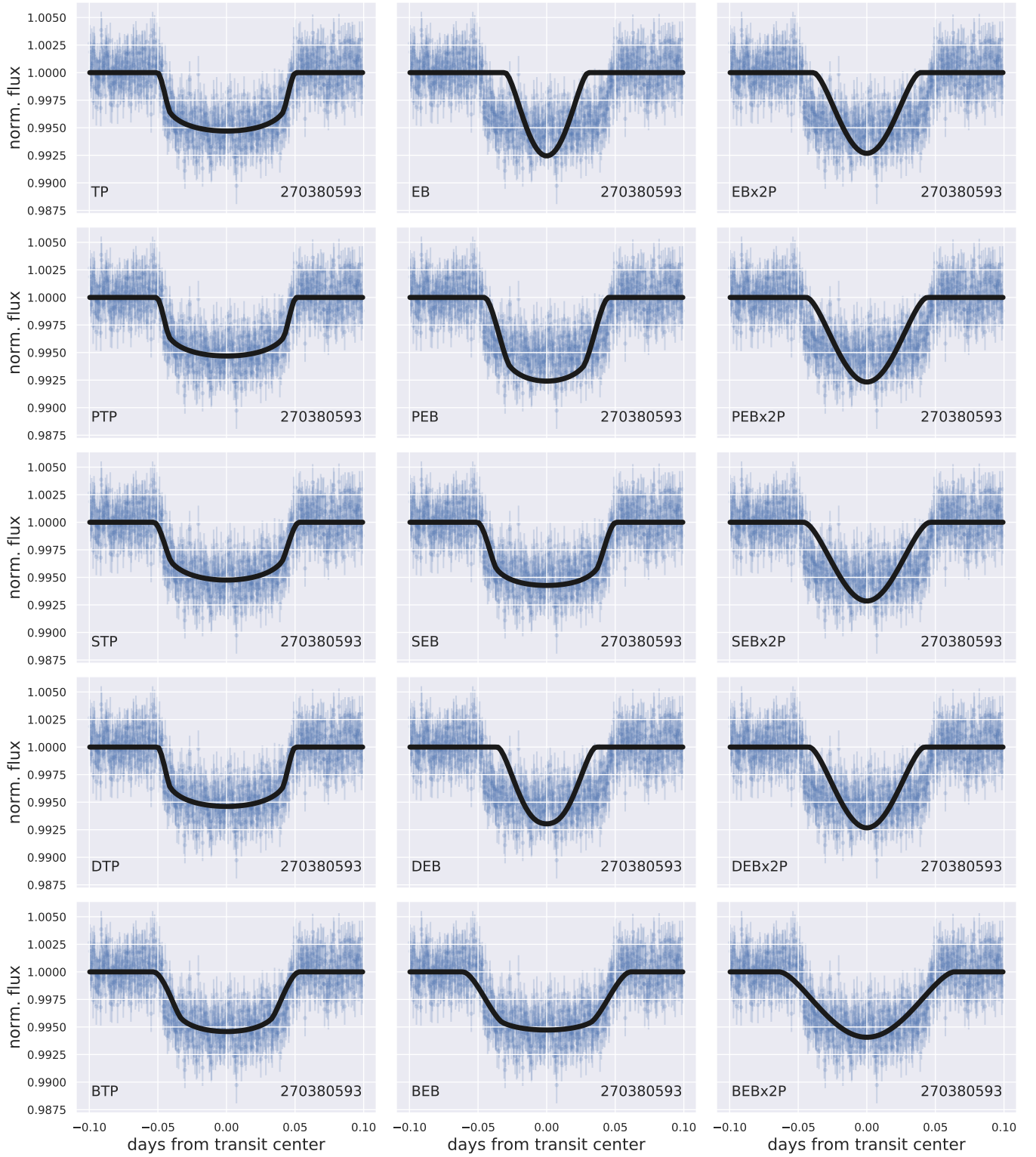


Figure 6. Fit of each transit scenario for TOI 465.01. The purple points are 2-minute cadence *TESS* data, while the black curves are the best-fit light curves. The scenario being fit for is in the bottom left of each panel, and the TIC ID of the star being fit for is in the bottom right of each panel.

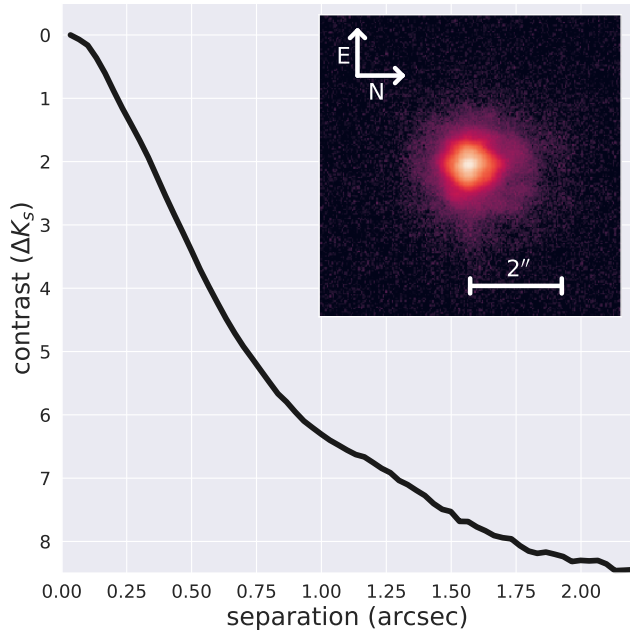


Figure 7. High-resolution image of TOI 465 obtained with ShARCS/ShaneAO in K_s band and corresponding contrast curve.

Next, we determine the best-fit model parameters for each of the 15 scenarios considered. The results of this step are displayed in Figure 6 and Table 2. Figure 6 shows the best-fit transit models for each scenario compared to the extracted *TESS* light curve. Table 2 shows the best-fit values for several transit model parameters. We see in both of these that the best-fitting scenario is the TP scenario.

The final step in the procedure is to calculate the relative probability of each scenario using Equation 3. These probabilities are shown in the right-most columns of Table 2. For this TOI, we find that $FPP = 0.33$ and $NFPP = 0.0$.

The above calculation was done assuming unresolved companions near the target star can be ruled out beyond $2''/2$. However, if one is able to further constrain the separation beyond which an unresolved star could exist, this number can be decreased to that new separation. On 2019 July 10, we obtained adaptive optics (AO) assisted high-resolution images of this TOI with ShARCS/ShaneAO on the Shane 3-meter telescope at Lick Observatory, shown in Figure 7. These images were reduced using the steps outlined in Hirsch et al. (2019) and Savel et al. (in prep), which we refer the reader to for more information. With these observations, we produce a contrast curve (also shown in Figure 7) that can be folded in to the TRICERATOPS analysis in order to further constrain the probabilities of scenarios involving unresolved companions.

To show how this changes the results of our tool, we repeat the calculation with this constraint applied. The impact that this AO follow-up has on the probability of each scenario is shown in the right-most column of Table 2, which now yields $FPP = 0.19$.

3.2. TIC 438490744 (TOI 529.01)

We also apply our algorithm on TOI 529.01, a candidate with a 1.67 day orbital period that has been ruled out as a NEB around the nearby star TIC 438490748 (see Section 5 for more details). The originally proposed host star is an M dwarf with a *TESS* magnitude of 14.14 and a distance of 63 pc away. This TOI was observed with a 2-minute cadence in sector 6.

We again begin by searching for all other stars within 10 pixels of the target star, as shown in Figure 8. After calculating the flux contribution due to each star, it is determined that two nearby stars, TIC 438490736 and TIC 438490748, contribute enough light to the aperture for them to host the observed transit. As a result, there are 21 scenarios to be considered for this TOI.

Figure 9 and Table 3 show the best-fit transits and transit model parameters for these scenarios, respectively. According to these results, the most probable scenario is the NEBx2P scenario around the nearby star TIC 438490748. In fact, the preference for this scenario is so strong that this TOI has $FPP > 0.99$ and $NFPP > 0.99$.

4. PLANET VETTING AND VALIDATION

In this section, we analyze the performance of TRICERATOPS by running it on several classified TOIs observed with both 2-minute cadence and 30-minute cadence observations. Using these results, we define the conditions a TOI must meet to be vetted and validated.

4.1. 2-minute Cadence Data

We begin by running our code on TOIs identified in 2-minute cadence data collected by *TESS*. In the first two years of the *TESS* mission, these observations were collected for $\sim 200,000$ nearby dwarf stars across nearly the entire sky. These observations are processed by the *TESS* Science Processing Operations Center (SPOC) pipeline (Jenkins et al. 2016), which identifies TCEs and generates data validation reports that contain information useful for further vetting. These stars are then subjected to manual vetting by the *TESS* Science Office to compile a set of TOIs that consist of the TCEs with the best chances of being actual planets.

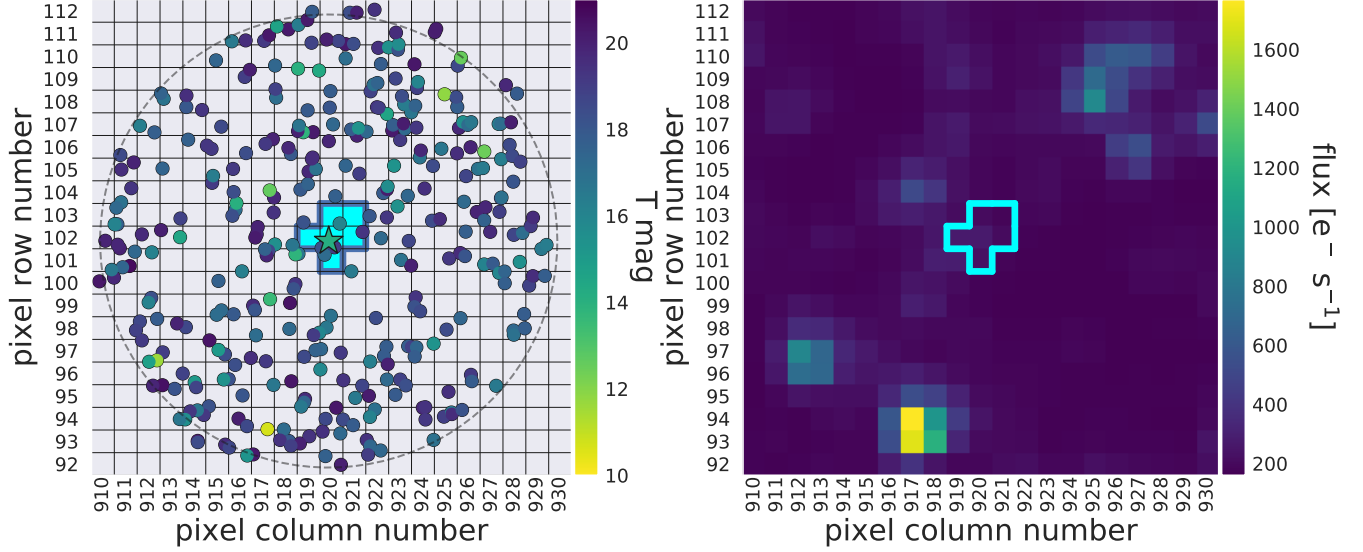


Figure 8. Visualization of TIC querying for TOI 529.01 (TIC 438490744). Left: All stars within 10 pixels of the target star (the limits of which are approximated by the black dashed line). The target star is located in the center pixel and is indicated by a star symbol. The aperture used to extract the light curve is highlighted in blue. Right: Time-averaged *TESS* image of the same pixels, with the same aperture overlaid.

Table 3. Scenario Probabilities for TOI 529.01

Scenario	TIC ID	$M_{\star} (M_{\odot})$	$R_{\star} (R_{\odot})$	P_{orb} (days)	i (deg)	$R_p (R_{\oplus})$	$R_{\text{EB}} (R_{\odot})$	\mathcal{P}_j
TP	438490744	0.21	0.24	1.67	89.9	6.89		< 0.01
EB	438490744	0.21	0.24	1.67	86.6		0.10	< 0.01
EBx2P	438490744	0.21	0.24	3.33	87.3		0.24	< 0.01
PTP	438490744	0.21	0.24	1.67	90.0	8.61		< 0.01
PEB	438490744	0.21	0.24	1.67	89.5		0.10	< 0.01
PEBx2P	438490744	0.21	0.24	3.33	87.7		0.24	< 0.01
STP	438490744	0.09	0.10	1.67	89.2	19.70		< 0.01
SEB	438490744	0.18	0.22	1.67	89.7		0.10	< 0.01
SEBx2P	438490744	0.48	0.24	3.33	87.7		0.24	< 0.01
DTP	438490744	0.21	0.24	1.67	89.2	9.82		< 0.01
DEB	438490744	0.21	0.24	1.67	89.5		0.10	< 0.01
DEBx2P	438490744	0.21	0.24	3.33	87.7		0.24	< 0.01
BTP	438490744	0.51	0.45	1.67	89.8	19.92		< 0.01
BEB	438490744	1.05	1.42	1.67	89.6		1.05	< 0.01
BEBx2P	438490744	0.93	1.67	3.33	84.4		0.97	< 0.01
NTP	438490736	0.67	0.69	1.67	89.5	19.94		< 0.01
NEB	438490736	0.67	0.69	1.67	88.1		0.56	< 0.01
NEBx2P	438490736	0.67	0.69	3.33	89.5		0.69	< 0.01
NTP	438490748	0.51	0.45	1.67	89.7	19.98		< 0.01
NEB	438490748	1.12	1.75	1.67	89.8		0.76	0.06
NEBx2P	438490748	1.08	1.54	3.33	85.2		1.16	0.94
TIC ^a	438490744	$0.21^{+0.02}_{-0.02}$	$0.24^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$					

^a Host star properties from version 8 of the TIC (Stassun et al. 2018).

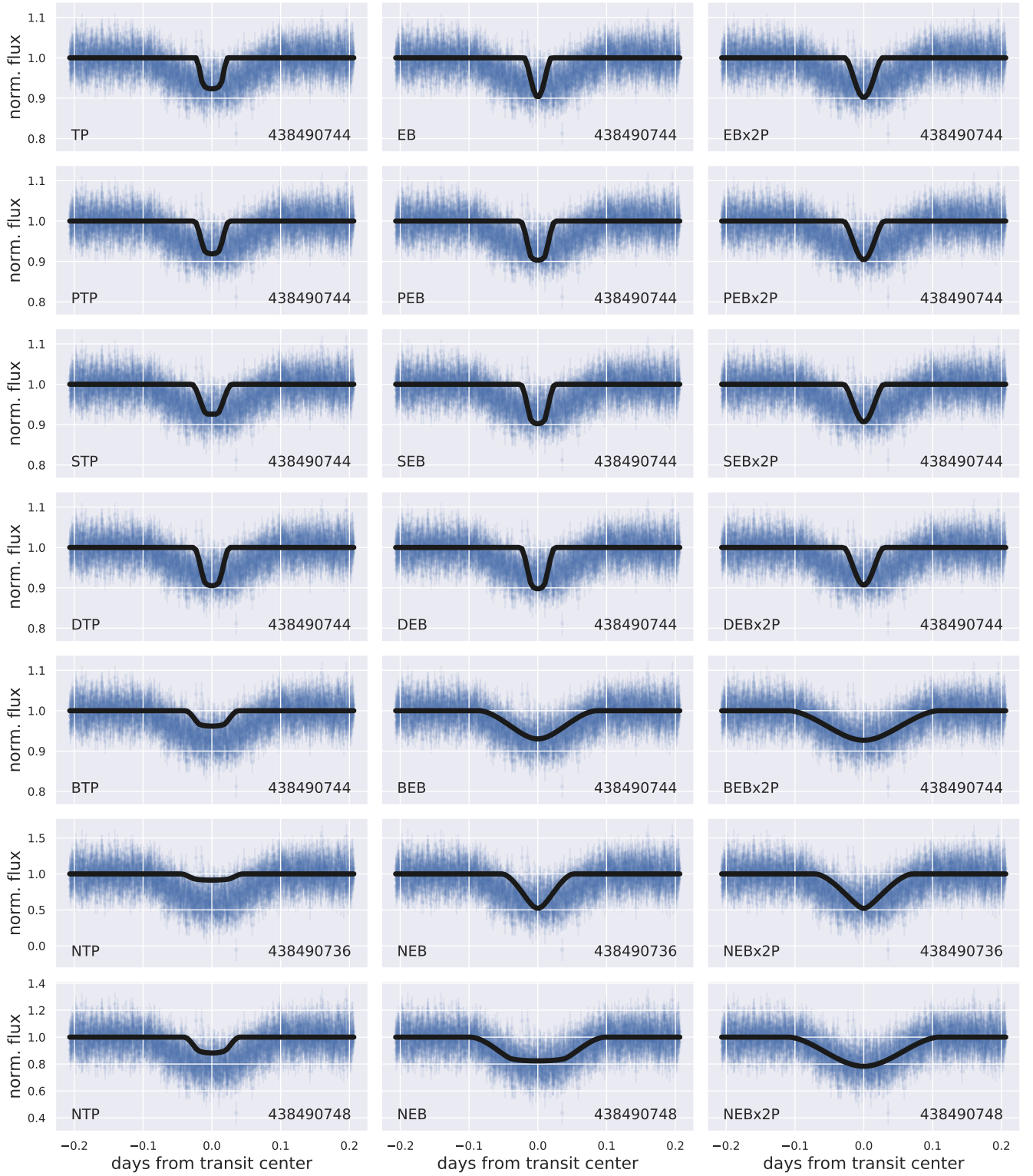


Figure 9. Fit of each transit scenario for TOI 529.01. The purple points are 2-minute cadence *TESS* data, while the black curves are the best-fit light curves. The scenario being fit for is in the bottom left of each panel, and the TIC ID of the star being fit for is in the bottom right of each panel.

We use publicly available information from the *TESS* Follow-up Observation Program (TFOP) website⁹ and 2-minute cadence *TESS* light curves from MAST to obtain the phase-folded light curves and apertures that we input into **TRICERATOPS** for each TOI. Because a key function of our algorithm is the identification of TOIs that are false positives around nearby stars, we use light curves extracted using simple aperture photometry instead of those processed with pre-data-conditioning step of the SPOC pipeline, which removes contamination and variability originating from nearby stars. In order to recreate the conditions under which one would use our tool on new TOIs, we only use data from the first sector in which each TOI is observed and restrict the analysis to TOIs with at least 3 transits.

In order to have a ground truth with which to compare the results of our algorithm, we restrict our sample of TOIs to those that have been designated as confirmed planets (CPs) and those that have been designated as false positives (FPs) by the TFOP. We also discard TOIs that have been designated FPs due to instrumental false alarms (which our tool does not test for), TOIs without estimates for M_* , R_* , and T_{eff} in the TIC, and TOIs for which we are unable to feasibly recover a transit with the purported orbital parameters. Lastly, we only include planets with best-fit planet radii $R_p < 8R_{\oplus}$ under the TP scenario. This radius corresponds roughly to the minimum radius of a brown dwarf (e.g., Sorahana et al. 2013) and has been used as an upper limit in the size of objects that can be validated in past validation studies (e.g., Mayo et al. 2018), due to the fact that giant planets, brown dwarfs, and low-mass stars are typically indistinguishable based on radius alone. This leaves 68 TOIs in total, 28 of which are confirmed planets and 40 of which are false positives. The system properties of these TOIs are displayed in Figure 10.

After generating light curves for these TOIs, we calculate the FPP and NFPP for each to determine the limits within which **TRICERATOPS** can be used reliably. First, we explore how our predictions depend on the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of the data. We define the SNR as

$$\text{SNR} = \frac{\delta_{\text{obs}}}{\sigma_{\text{CDPP}}} \sqrt{n_{\text{tra}}} \quad (17)$$

where δ_{obs} is the observed transit depth (i.e., not corrected for dilution from nearby stars), σ_{CDPP} is the combined differential photometric precision (CDPP, Christiansen et al. 2012) of the 2-minute cadence data, and n_{tra} is the number of observed transits. We calcu-

late σ_{CDPP} by applying the `estimate_cdpp` method of `lightkurve` (Lightkurve Collaboration et al. 2018) over the duration of the transit. Because this quantity incorporates our confidence in the size of a transiting object and the overall density of data points in-transit, it should correlate with the ability of **TRICERATOPS** to characterize the shape of a given transit.

The results of this analysis are shown in Figure 11. For both CPs and FPs, **TRICERATOPS** generally has more accurate predictions when SNR is higher. Specifically, FPP alone does not appear to be a reliable predictor of TOI disposition when $\text{SNR} < 15$, where FPs are frequently assigned low values of FPP that would ideally be reserved for CPs.

Second, we explore how our algorithm performs when NFPP is also considered. Figure 12 shows the distribution of the TOIs in NFPP–FPP space for $\text{SNR} < 15$ (on the left) and $\text{SNR} > 15$ (on the right). In the figure, we differentiate TOIs that are CPs, TOIs that have been ruled out as FPs around nearby stars (nearby false positives, or NFPPs), and TOIs that have been ruled out as FPs originating from the immediate vicinity of the target star (target false positives, or TFPs). The most salient feature of this figure is the region defined by $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$ and $\text{FPP} < 0.5$ that contains nearly all of the CPs, none of the NFPPs or TFPs, and is independent of SNR. We designate TOIs that exist within this region as likely planets.

Another visible feature of Figure 12 is the pile-up of CPs in the region defined by $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$ and $\text{FPP} < 0.05$. Because this region is representative of TOIs with the best chances of being bona fide planets, we use it as a guide in defining our criteria for validating planets. Typically, the standard for validating planets (e.g., with **VESPA**) is to achieve a FPP below 1%. We therefore define validated planets as TOIs with $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$ and $\text{FPP} < 0.015$ (or $\text{FPP} \leq 0.01$, when rounding to the nearest percent).

As a cross-check of our definition of a validated planet, we calculate the FPP of the TOIs in Figure 12 using **VESPA**. We run **VESPA** using the coordinates, stellar photometry (*TESS*mag, *B*mag, *V*mag, *J*mag, *H*mag, and *K*mag), T_{eff} , $\log g$, and parallax listed for each TOI in the TIC. We use the same transit data used in our **TRICERATOPS** runs and assume a maximum unresolved star separation of $2''.2$. The FPPs obtained with **VESPA** are compared to the FPPs obtained with **TRICERATOPS** in Figure 13. According to the figure, TOIs that score a low FPP with **TRICERATOPS** generally score a similar FPP with **VESPA**. When it comes to FPs, and NFP in particular, **TRICERATOPS** typically assigns higher FPPs than **VESPA** does. This is a reflection of our calculation

⁹ <https://exofop.ipac.caltech.edu/teess/index.php>

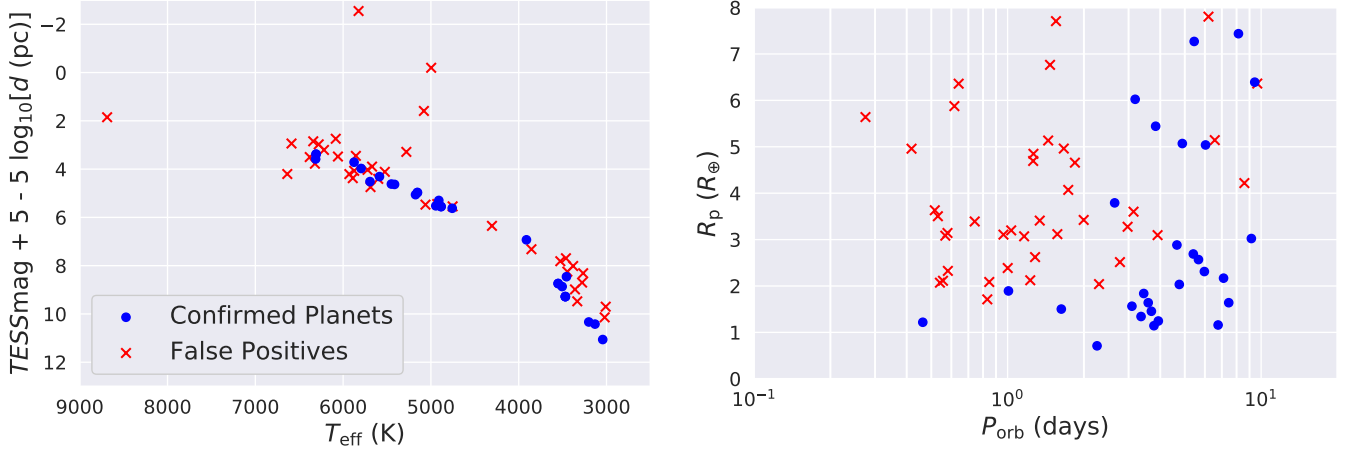


Figure 10. Host star (*left*) and planet (*right*) properties of confirmed planets and false positives used in our performance analysis. The sample includes systems with a diversity of host spectral types, planet orbital periods, and predicted planet radii (i.e., the best-fit radii from the TP scenario).

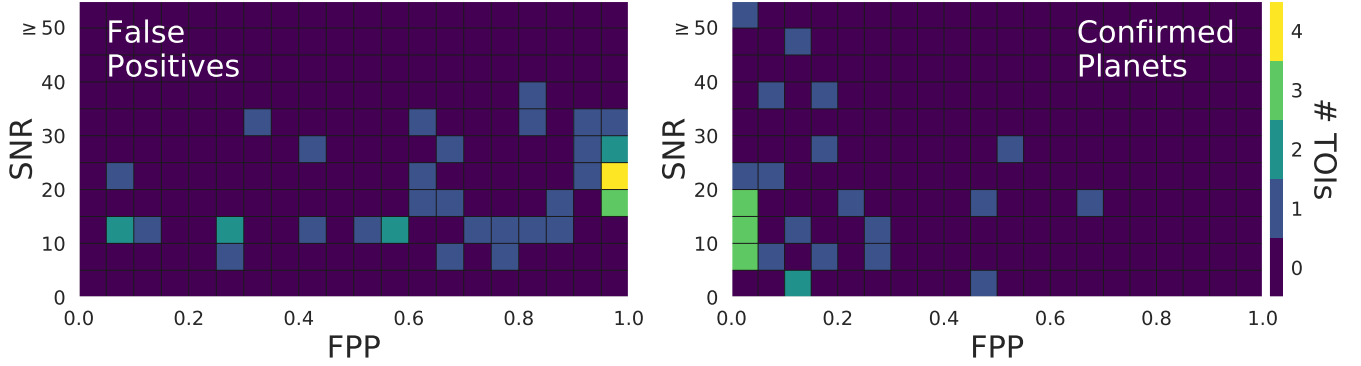


Figure 11. SNR vs FPP for all false positives (*left*) and confirmed planets (*right*) used in our performance analysis. Our tool performs better for TOIs with higher SNRs. **TRICERATOPS** performs best when $\text{SNR} > 15$.

procedure, which considers each star that contributes flux to the target aperture as a potential source of the observed transit. One might also note that there are a few NFPs that are scored low FPPs with both tools. However, because of our condition that a TOI have $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$ to be classified as a validated planet or a likely planet, **TRICERATOPS** would not identify these candidates as planets. Conversely, because **VESPA** explicitly requires the assumption that no contaminating stars exist within a specified radius of the target star, it could classify these candidates as planets if all nearby stars are not ruled out as transit sources prior to the analysis. To avoid outcomes like this, **VESPA** requires a separate calculation of the probability that the transit originates from the target star prior to its FPP calculation (e.g., Morton et al. 2016).

It is also worth noting that the calculation procedures between the tools are not identical. An important difference is that **TRICERATOPS** takes into account

the STP scenario, which involves a planet transiting an unresolved bound companion, whereas **VESPA** does not. This false positive scenario typically has a non-negligible probability of being the ground truth and therefore inflates the FPP obtained with **TRICERATOPS** relative to that of **VESPA**. To test how this impacts the FPP comparison, we calculate the **TRICERATOPS** FPP for each TOI both using (left-hand panel of Figure 13) and omitting (right-hand panel of Figure 13) the STP scenario. We see that when this scenario is included, there are several TOIs that score a validation-worthy FPP with **VESPA** that do not with **TRICERATOPS**. However, when this scenario is omitted from the calculation, the two tools return more consistent results. This suggests that **TRICERATOPS** is more conservative when validating TOIs and will oftentimes rely on supplementary follow-up observations to achieve $\text{FPP} \leq 0.01$.

4.2. 30-minute Cadence Data

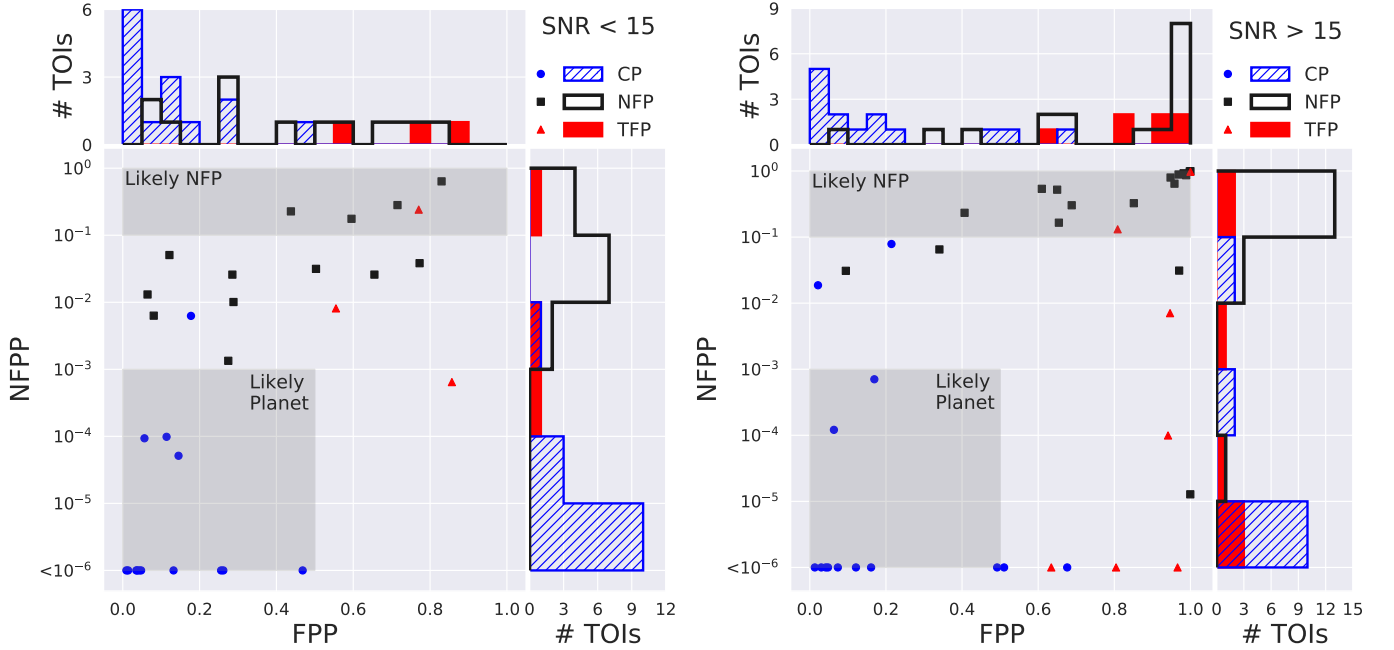


Figure 12. NFP vs FPP for SNR < 15 (*left*) and SNR > 15 (*right*). We designate TOIs with NFP < 10^{-3} and FPP < 0.5 as likely planets. For TOIs with NFP < 10^{-3} , and FPP ≤ 0.01 , we are able to rule out FPs with a high enough confidence to consider them validated. Lastly, we are able to identify TOIs that are NFPs with high confidence when NFP > 10^{-1} .

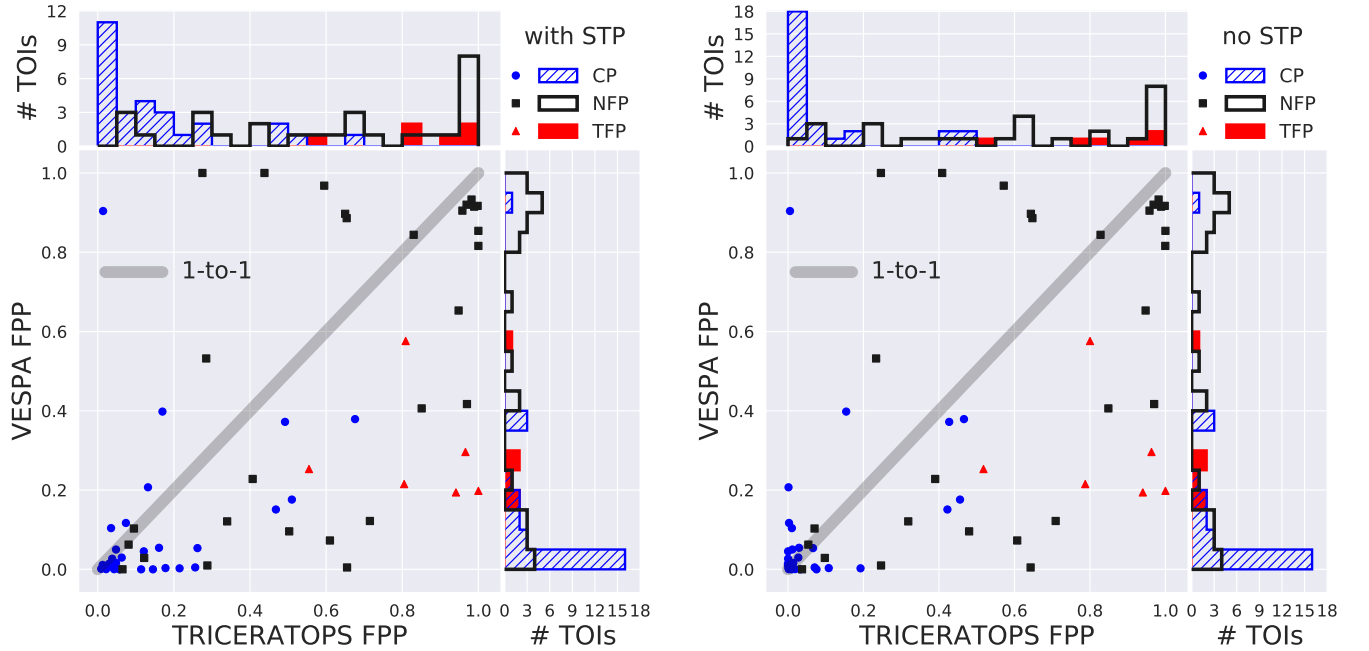


Figure 13. VESPA FPP vs TRICERATOPS FPP for the TOIs in Figure 12. *Left:* Comparison with the STP scenario included in the TRICERATOPS calculation. *Right:* Comparison without the STP scenario included in the TRICERATOPS calculation. CPs that score a low FPP with TRICERATOPS tend to also score a low FPP with VESPA. This agreement is stronger when the STP scenario (which is not considered in VESPA) is omitted in TRICERATOPS. Conversely, FPs (and in particular, NFPs) generally score higher FPPs with TRICERATOPS than with VESPA due to the ability of the former to consider nearby stars as potential sources.

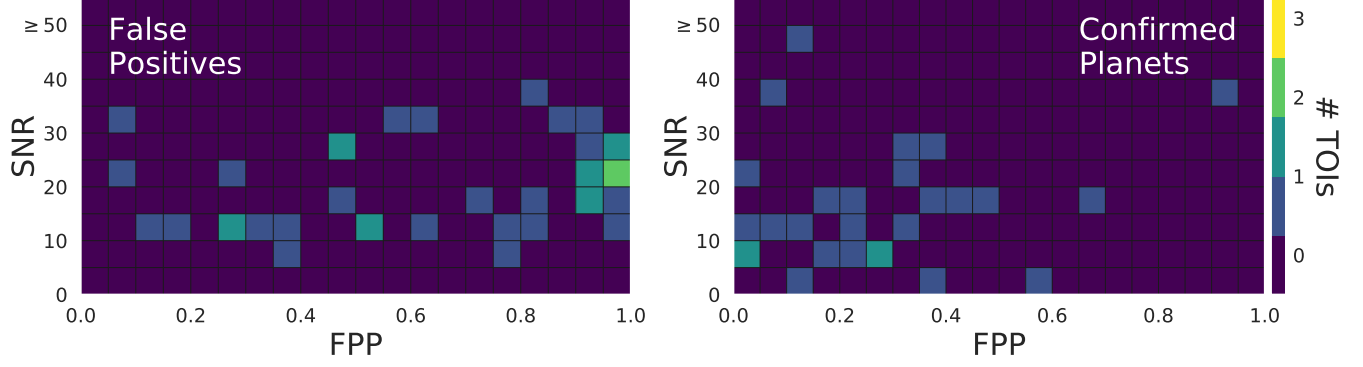


Figure 14. SNR vs FPP for the same false positives (*left*) and confirmed planets (*right*) shown in Figure 11, but calculated using light curves extracted from 30-minute cadence *TESS* data. While there still appears to be a correlation between SNR and performance, it is less clear here than in Figure 11.

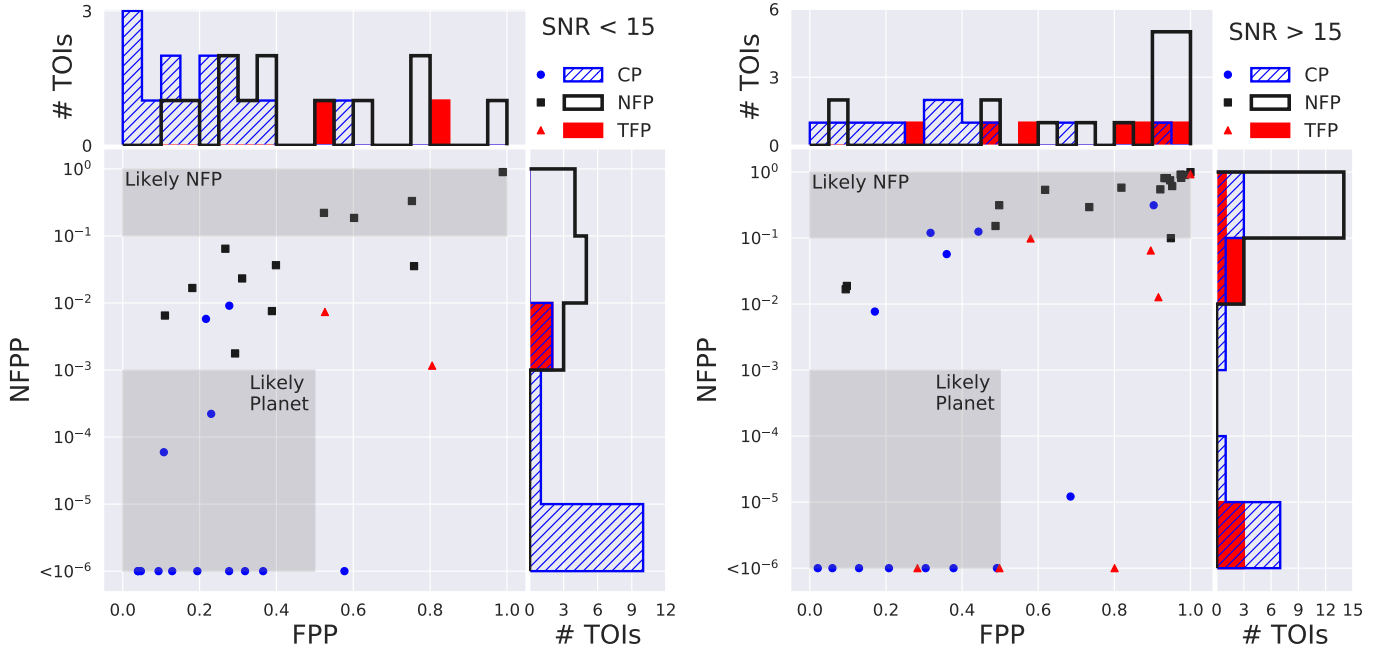


Figure 15. NFPP vs FPP for $\text{SNR} < 15$ (*left*) and $\text{SNR} > 15$ (*right*), but calculated using 30-minute cadence *TESS* data. While we are unable to identify a region in which we can validate TOIs, we can still designate TOIs with $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$ and $\text{FPP} < 0.5$ as likely planets. Additionally, we are still able to identify TOIs that are NFPs with high confidence when $\text{NFPP} > 10^{-1}$.

One might expect our code to have a more difficult time distinguishing CPs from FPs when using data with a longer cadence, as they would yield fewer points with which to characterize the shape of the transit. To test this, we also run our code on 30-minute cadence light curves of the same TOIs. We use *eleanor* (Feinstein et al. 2019) to extract these light curves from *TESS* Full

Frame Images (FFIs) within the same sectors and apertures used to obtain the 2-minute cadence light curves.¹⁰

In Figure 14, we show how SNR affects the new FPP calculations. As in the previous section, *TRICERATOPS* is able to correctly identify CPs and FPs more frequently when SNR is high, but the correlation is weaker overall.

¹⁰ More precisely, we run our code on 67 of the 68 TOIs analyzed in the previous section. We were unable to recover the FFI data for TOI 1796.01 (the TOI with the highest SNR in Figure 11) due to a bug in *eleanor*, which returns an error claiming that the TOI has not yet been observed upon searching for its data.

Specifically, the FPPs of CPs are less concentrated near zero here than those calculated with the 2-minute data.

In Figure 15, we reproduce the NFPP vs FPP analysis from the previous section using the 30-minute cadence data. We again see that most CPs are contained within a region defined by $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$ and $\text{FPP} < 0.5$, with very few FPs also falling within this region. Specifically, the region contains 18 CPs and only 2 FPs. In addition, almost no CPs have a $\text{FPP} > 0.7$ (with the exception of one, which is mistaken for a nearby false positive), which implies that a high FPP is still indicative of actual FPs. We thus again designate TOIs with $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$ and $\text{FPP} < 0.5$ as likely planets. However, unlike the results obtained with the 2-minute cadence data, there does not appear to be a region of parameter space in which planets can be confidently validated. Nonetheless, TRICERATOPS results involving long cadence *TESS* data are useful for vetting TOIs and prioritizing them for follow-up observations to further investigate the nature of the signal.

5. NEARBY FALSE POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION

In addition to its ability to identify likely planets and validate TOIs, TRICERATOPS is proficient at identifying NFPs. In Figures 12 and 15, TOIs with a $\text{NFPP} > 10^{-1}$ are NFPs 85% and 82% of the time, respectively. Additionally, the region defined by $\text{NFPP} > 10^{-1}$ contains over half of the NFPs in our sample for calculations conducted using both 2-minute and 30-minute data. These results suggest that TRICERATOPS can be used to predict which TOIs are NFPs and to determine which nearby stars have the highest probability of hosting the observed transit. We therefore classify TOIs in this region of parameter space as likely NFPs.

As an additional step to assess the ability of our tool to identify NFPs, we compile a set of observations collected by members of *TESS* Follow-up Observing Program (TFOP)¹¹ Sub Group 1 (SG1) that rule out 30 TOIs as NFPs. The follow-up observations were scheduled using the *TESS* Transit Finder, which is a customized version of the *Tapir* software package (Jensen 2013). Below, we outline these observations and compare the empirical results with the NFPPs predicted by TRICERATOPS using 2-minute cadence data. A summary of these targets is given in Table 4 and details about the facilities used are given in Table 5.

Another method of discerning NFPs is by searching for centroid offsets in the *TESS* pixels encompassing a TOI. Often times, the true source of a NFP can be identified

using the magnitude and direction of these offsets. In addition to the observations collected by TFOP SG1, we compare our TRICERATOPS predictions with the difference image centroiding analyses for these TOIs in their SPOC data validation reports (Twicken et al. 2018).

With these comparisons, we display that TRICERATOPS often yields similar results to both follow-up observations and predictions made using centroid offsets. For several of these TOIs (17/30), our tool assigns a NFPP high enough to classify them as likely NFPs. For those that do not meet this criterion, FPP and NFPP are high enough to rule out the possibility of the TOI being a planet. Lastly, in cases where there are several NFP candidates (of which there are 28), TRICERATOPS is frequently (10/28) able to predict which nearby star is the true host of the transit signal.

5.1. TIC 260043723 (TOI 217.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 260043722. Previous HAT South data suggested that this TOI is a NEB, which was confirmed by PEST Observatory R_C -band observations with a depth of 200 ppt. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 2 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 260043722. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0063. TIC 260043722 has a NFPP of 0.0059, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.0806 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.2. TIC 279740441 (TOI 273.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 279740439. The signal was a nearby planet candidate (signal not on the original TOI, but still possibly planetary) based on observations from the TRAPPIST telescope that show a depth of 40 ppt in a custom $I+z$ -band filter. Later observations with LCOGT (Brown et al. 2013) showed a V -band depth of 30 ppt on the nearby candidate; the wavelength-dependent eclipse depth indicates that it is an eclipsing binary. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 2 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 279740439. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.5377. TIC 279740439 has a NFPP of 0.2041, making it the 2nd most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calcu-

¹¹ <https://tess.mit.edu/followup>

Table 4. TFOP SG1 false-positive identification compared to TRICERATOPS predictions

Target TIC ID	TOI Number	TFOP SG1 Disposition	True Host TIC ID	FPP	Total NFPP	True Host NFPP	# NFP Candidates	True Host Rank
260043723	217.01	NEB	260043722	0.0806	0.0063	0.0059	2	1
279740441	273.01	NEB	279740439	0.6095	0.5377	0.2041	2	2
250386181	390.01	NEB	250386182	0.9703	0.0311	0.0311	2	1
219388773	399.01	NEB	219388775	0.2882	0.0101	0.0101	1	1
176778112	408.01	NEB	176778114	0.3405	0.0650	0.0438	2	1
20178111	467.01	NEB	20178112	0.4065	0.2332	0.1638	3	1
427352241	485.01	NEB	427352247	0.6498	0.5219	0.0693	3	2
108645766	497.01	NEB	108645800	0.8299	0.6361	-	4	-
274138511	506.01	NEB	760244235	0.1215	0.0507	0.0030	10	6
431999925	513.01	NEB	431999916	0.9819	0.9230	0.1482	8	2
438490744	529.01	NEB	438490748	1.0000	0.9938	0.9938	2	1
302895996	531.01	NEB	302895984	0.9477	0.7971	0.0509	5	3
53593457	543.01	NEB	53593470	0.9580	0.6436	-	5	-
59003115	556.01	NEB	59003118	0.2854	0.0258	0.0050	2	2
1133072	566.01	NEB	830310300	0.9687	0.8854	0.0124	9	6
146463781	636.01	NEB	146463868	0.9887	0.8640	-	3	-
432008938	643.01	NEB	432008934	0.9996	0.00001	-	2	-
54085154	662.01	NEB	54085149	0.2747	0.0013	0.0008	2	1
147660201	670.01	NPC	147660207	0.6543	0.1652	0.0868	9	1
391821647	708.01	NEB	$\sim 35''$ W	0.5955	0.1760	-	141	-
373424049	742.01	NEB	373424060	0.4377	0.2268	0.0006	31	23
271596418	868.01	NEB	271596416	0.6551	0.0259	0.0078	7	1
364107753	909.01	NEB	1310226289	0.0645	0.0131	0.0068	4	1
253990973	1061.01	NEB	253985122	0.5030	0.0315	0.0037	9	4
308034948	1206.01	NEB	unknown	0.7727	0.0383	-	108	-
274762761	1256.01	NEB	274762865	0.9981	0.9869	-	6	-
267561446	1284.01	NEB	267561450	0.7151	0.2818	0.0235	13	4
274662200	1285.01	NEB	274662220	0.6880	0.3031	0.0501	21	2
408203470	1289.01	NEB	408203452	0.8512	0.3258	0.1435	10	1
233681149	1340.01	NEB	233681148	0.0947	0.0309	0.0309	1	1

NOTE—“Total NFPP” is the total NFPP for the TOI. “True Host NFPP” is the NFPP for only the true host of the signal. “# NFP Candidates” is the number of nearby sources bright enough to host the signal. “True Host Rank” is the rank of the true host NFPP, compared to the NFPPs of all other NFP candidates (where a rank of 1 corresponds to the highest NFPP).

lated FPP of 0.6095 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.3. TIC 250386181 (TOI 390.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 250386182. The TOI is a NEB, based on LCOGT observations in the PanSTARRS zs filter showing a depth of roughly 350 ppt. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 2 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 250386182. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0311. TIC 250386182 has a NFPP of 0.0311, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP.

However, the calculated FPP of 0.9703 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.4. TIC 219388773 (TOI 399.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 219388775. The TOI is a NEB with depth of 130 ppt, based on LCOGT zs observations. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 1 nearby source other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, which is TIC 219388775. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0101. TIC 219388775 has a NFPP of 0.0101, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely

Table 5. Facilities used for TFOP SG1 followup

Observatory	Location	Aperture (m)	Pixel scale (arcsec)	FOV (arcmin)
Univ. Louisville Moore Obs. / CDK20N	Louisville, KY, US	0.51	0.54	37×37
Univ. Louisville Manner Telescope	Mt. Lemmon, AZ, US	0.61	0.39	26×26
Mt. Kent Observatory / CDK700	Toowoomba, Australia	0.7	0.4	27×27
Hazelwood Observatory	Churchill, Victoria, Australia	0.318	0.55	20×13.5
LCOGT 0.4m	(various)	0.4	0.57	29.2×19.5
LCOGT 1.0m	(various)	1.0	0.39	26.5×26.5
Fred L. Whipple Obs. / MEarth-North	Amado, AZ, USA	0.4	0.76	26×26
Tel. Carlos Sánchez / MuSCAT2	Teide Obs., Tenerife, Spain	1.52	0.44	7.4×7.4
El Sauce Observatory	Coquimbo Province, Chile	0.36	1.47	18.8×12.5
Perth Exoplanet Survey Telescope (PEST)	Perth, Australia	0.3	1.2	31×21
HATNet	(various)	0.11	14	492×492
HAT-South	(various)	0.18	3.7	492×492
TRAPPIST-South	La Silla, Chile	0.6	0.6	22×22
Steward Observatory Phillips Telescope	Mt. Lemmon, AZ, US	0.6	0.38	26×26

planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.2882 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.5. *TIC 176778112 (TOI 408.01)*

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 176778114. The TOI is a NEB with primary and secondary eclipse depths of ~ 430 ppt and ~ 300 ppt in LCOGT r' observations. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 2 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 176778114. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0650. TIC 176778114 has a NFPP of 0.0438, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.3405 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.6. *TIC 20178111 (TOI 467.01)*

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 20178112. The TOI is a NEB, based on PEST Observatory R_C observations that show a ~ 55 ppt eclipse on TIC 20178112, which Gaia shows as two stars with magnitudes $G = 14.2$ and $G = 15.9$. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 3 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 20178112. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.2332. TIC 20178112 has a NFPP of 0.1638, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated

FPP of 0.4065 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.7. *TIC 427352241 (TOI 485.01)*

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 427352247. The TOI is a NEB, based on LCOGT r' observations that show a 200 ppt, V-shaped eclipse. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 3 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 427352247. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.5219. TIC 427352247 has a NFPP of 0.0693, making it the 2nd most-probably NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.6498 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.8. *TIC 108645766 (TOI 497.01)*

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 108645800. The TOI is a NEB, based on LCOGT r' observations with a depth of at least 100 ppt, and confirmed by archival HAT South data. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 4 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 108645800. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.6361, but the NFPP around TIC 108645800 was not calculated due to unknown stellar parameters. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.8299 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.9. TIC 274138511 (TOI 506.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 760244235. The TOI is a NEB with depth of at least 200 ppt, based on LCOGT r' observations. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 10 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 760244235. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0507. TIC 760244235 has a NFPP of 0.0030, making it the 6th most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.1215 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.10. TIC 431999925 (TOI 513.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 431999916. The TOI is a NEB with depth of at least 90 ppt, based on LCOGT i' observations. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 8 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 431999916. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.9230. TIC 431999916 has a NFPP of 0.1482, making it the 2nd most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.9819 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.11. TIC 438490744 (TOI 529.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 438490748. The TOI is a NEB with depth of ~ 80 ppt, based on K2 and HAT-South data. TIC 438490748 (the source of the signal) is a pair of stars in Gaia, so the true depth may be deeper. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 2 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 438490748. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.9938. TIC 438490748 has a NFPP of 0.9938, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 1.0 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.12. TIC 302895996 (TOI 531.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 302895984. The TOI is a NEB with a depth of 200 ppt in the I band from LCOGT observations. This star was

also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 5 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 302895984. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.7971. TIC 302895984 has a NFPP of 0.0509, making it the 3rd most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.9477 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.13. TIC 53593457 (TOI 543.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 53593470. The TOI is a NEB with a depth of ~ 250 ppt in both g' and i' in LCOGT observations. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 5 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 53593470. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.6436, but the NFPP around TIC 53593470 was not calculated due to unknown stellar parameters. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.9580 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.14. TIC 59003115 (TOI 556.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 59003118. This is K2-78b (EPIC 210400751) (Crossfield et al. 2016), which was later shown to be an NEB (Cabrer et al. 2017). This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 2 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 59003118. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0258. TIC 59003118 has a NFPP of 0.0050, making it the 2nd most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.2854 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.15. TIC 1133072 (TOI 566.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 830310300. The TOI is a NEB, based on observations from LCOGT and Mt. Kent Observatory in i' , and El Sauce Observatory in R_C . The depth is at least 500 ppt in i' . In this case, the SPOC centroid offset analysis failed to identify the presence of a background source at the 3σ level of significance. TRICERATOPS identifies 9 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 830310300. The

total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.8854. TIC 830310300 has a NFPP of 0.0124, making it the 6th most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.9687 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.16. TIC 146463781 (TOI 636.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 146463868. The TOI is a NEB, based on LCOGT I_C -band observations with a depth of 300 ppt. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 3 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 146463868. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.8640, but the NFPP around TIC 146463868 was not calculated due to unknown stellar parameters. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.9887 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.17. TIC 432008938 (TOI 643.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 432008934. The TOI is a NEB, based on the centroid offset from the SPOC S01-S09 vetting report. TRICERATOPS identifies 2 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, but neither is TIC 432008934. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is $1e-5$. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. However, the calculated FPP of 0.9996 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.18. TIC 54085154 (TOI 662.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 54085149. The TOI is a NEB, based on LCOGT i' observations that show a depth of 400 ppt at two different epochs. In this case, the SPOC centroid offset analysis found a significant offset, but the offset did not point directly to the true host. TRICERATOPS identifies 2 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 54085149. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0013. TIC 54085149 has a NFPP of 0.0008, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.2747 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.19. TIC 147660201 (TOI 670.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 147660207. This candidate was retired from SG1 as nearby planet candidate. Observations show the true source of the signal to be a ~ 4 ppt event in the nearby star TIC 147660207, which is still an active planet candidate as of this writing. The event was seen in R_C from El Sauce Observatory, and in i' from Mt. Kent and Hazelwood Observatories. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 9 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 147660207. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.1652. TIC 147660207 has a NFPP of 0.0868, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.6543 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.20. TIC 391821647 (TOI 708.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the TOI is a NFP. The TOI is a NEB, based on large scatter in the image centroid from sector to sector in a very crowded field, and a possible secondary eclipse. From the SPOC S01-S09 report, this is a clear NEB $\sim 35''$ west. Although the exact source of the NEB is not clear from the SPOC centroid offset analysis, it is likely too faint, and thus the event is too deep to be planetary. TRICERATOPS identifies 141 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.1760. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.5955 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.21. TIC 373424049 (TOI 742.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 373424060. The TOI is a NEB, based on LCOGT observations that show a depth of ~ 200 ppt in the zs filter. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 31 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 373424060. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.2268. TIC 373424060 has a NFPP of 0.0006, making it the 23rd most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.4377 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.22. TIC 271596418 (TOI 868.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 271596416. The TOI is a NEB, based on LCOGT ob-

servations that show a depth of 70–100 ppt in zs and ~ 30 ppt in i' . This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 7 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 271596416. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0259. TIC 271596416 has a NFPP of 0.0078, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.6551 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.23. TIC 364107753 (TOI 909.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 1310226289. The TOI is a NEB, based on LCOGT observations that show a depth of at least 75 ppt in zs . This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 4 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 1310226289. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0131. TIC 1310226289 has a NFPP of 0.0068, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.0645 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

5.24. TIC 253990973 (TOI 1061.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 253985122. The TOI is a NEB, based on PEST Observatory R_C band observations with a depth of ~ 600 ppt. In this case, the SPOC centroid offset analysis failed to identify the presence of a background source at the 3σ level of significance. TRICERATOPS identifies 9 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 253985122. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0315. TIC 253985122 has a NFPP of 0.0037, making it the 4th most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.5030 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.25. TIC 308034948 (TOI 1206.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the TOI is a NEB. Stellar parameters from Gaia and TIC indicate $R_* > 40 R_\odot$, but the orbital period of < 1 day would place the companion's orbit inside the star if it were on target. The SPOC centroid offset suggest that the signal originates from a

star to the south. TRICERATOPS identifies 108 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0383. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.7727 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.26. TIC 274762761 (TOI 1256.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 274762865. The TOI is a NEB, based on archival MEarth-North (Nutzman & Charbonneau 2008; Irwin et al. 2015) observations that show no event on target, and eclipses at the *TESS* ephemeris in a neighboring star. SPOC difference image analysis correctly identified this star as the true host. TRICERATOPS identifies 6 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 274762865. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.9869, but the NFPP around TIC 274762865 was not calculated due to unknown stellar parameters. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.9981 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.27. TIC 267561446 (TOI 1284.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 267561450. The TOI is a NEB, based on observations by the University of Louisville Manner Telescope and MuSCAT2 at Teide Observatory in g' , r' , i' , and z' that show a ~ 200 ppt eclipse. This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 13 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 267561450. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.2818. TIC 267561450 has a NFPP of 0.0235, making it the 4th most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.7151 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.28. TIC 274662200 (TOI 1285.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 274662220. The TOI is a NEB, based on observations at the University of Louisville Manner Telescope that show a depth of 150 ppt in r' . This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 21 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 274662220. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.3031. TIC

274662220 has a NFPP of 0.0501, making it the 2nd most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.6880 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.29. TIC 408203470 (TOI 1289.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 408203452. The TOI is a NEB, based on observations in a long-pass GG495 filter at the Steward Observatory Phillips 0.6m Telescope on Mount Lemmon that show a 35 ppt eclipse. Observations at the University of Louisville Moore Observatory show a depth of 60 ppt in r' . This star was also correctly identified as the host of the signal by the SPOC centroid offset analysis. TRICERATOPS identifies 10 nearby sources other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, one of which is TIC 408203452. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.3258. TIC 408203452 has a NFPP of 0.1435, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is high enough to classify the TOI as a likely NFP. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.8512 is too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet or validated planet.

5.30. TIC 233681149 (TOI 1340.01)

TFOP SG1 confirms the true host of the signal is TIC 233681148. The TOI is a NEB, based on SPOC S14–S16 reports that show a centroid offset to the closest star SW. Single pixel photometry on the *TESS* FFIs supports this conclusion. TRICERATOPS identifies 1 nearby source other than the target star bright enough to host the signal, which is TIC 233681148. The total NFPP calculated by TRICERATOPS is 0.0309. TIC 233681148 has a NFPP of 0.0309, making it the most probable NFP host. This NFPP is too low to classify the TOI as a likely NFP and too high to classify the TOI as a likely planet. In addition, the calculated FPP of 0.0947 is too high to classify the TOI as a validated planet.

6. RESULTS

We apply our code to 384 SPOC TOIs that have neither been confirmed as bona fide planets nor rejected as false positives by TFOP. We again restrict our analysis to TOIs with $R_p < 8R_\oplus$, TOIs with host stars that are well characterized in the TIC, and TOIs for which we are able to recover a transit with the purported orbital parameters. However, unlike the sample used in Section 4, we permit TOIs with orbital periods up to 50 days and extract their light curves using data from all sectors in which they were observed. The results of these calculations are displayed in Figure 16 and Table 7.

In the top panels of Figure 16, we show the host star and planet properties of all TOIs color-coded by FPP. In these panels, we see that TOIs with smaller radii and longer orbital periods tend to have lower FPPs. In the center panels of the figure, we show the same data color-coded by NFPP. In these panels, we again see a propensity for TOIs with smaller radii and longer orbital periods to have lower NFPPs. Nonetheless, there are several TOIs with large radii and short orbital periods that have low NFPP values, which generally represent TOIs without nearby stars bright enough to produce their observed transits. Additionally, we see that neither FPP nor NFPP is closely tied to host spectral type.

In the bottom panels of Figure 16, we present the properties of TOIs that have been classified as validated planets, likely planets, and likely NFPs by our analysis. In total, we statistically validate 12 TOIs, identify 125 TOIs as likely planets, and identify 52 likely NFPs. Our sample of validated TOIs have host stars with a variety of spectral types and planets with radii ranging from 1–5 R_\oplus and orbital periods ranging from 3–30 days. The details for all tested TOIs are given in Table 7.

The TOI numbers of the planet candidates statistically validated in this analysis are presented in Table 6. Of these, 9 are newly validated and 3 have already been empirically validated via a combination of follow-up observations. The agreement of our statistical validation and the empirical validation of these planet candidates is encouraging for the efficacy of both methods. In addition, we include the FPP calculated by TRICERATOPS in Table 6. Because FPP is expected to have some scatter across runs, we perform the calculation 20 times for each validated TOI and list the mean and standard deviation of the resulting distribution. In doing so, we affirm that our original FPP calculation that validated the planet candidate was not an outlier.

7. DISCUSSION

In Figure 16 we present the results of TRICERATOPS runs for 384 TOIs, 189 of which are assigned classifications of validated planet, likely planet, or likely NFP. In this figure, a number of patterns emerge that could have broader implications for the population of planets detected by *TESS* and the *TESS* FP rate. As we noted previously, TOIs classified as validated planets or likely planets generally have smaller radii and longer orbital periods. One could interpret this as meaning planets are more common in this region of parameter space. However, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge that this result is in part due to our choice of R_p and P_{orb} priors, which prefer transiting planet scenarios in this region of parameter space. We realize that this effect could

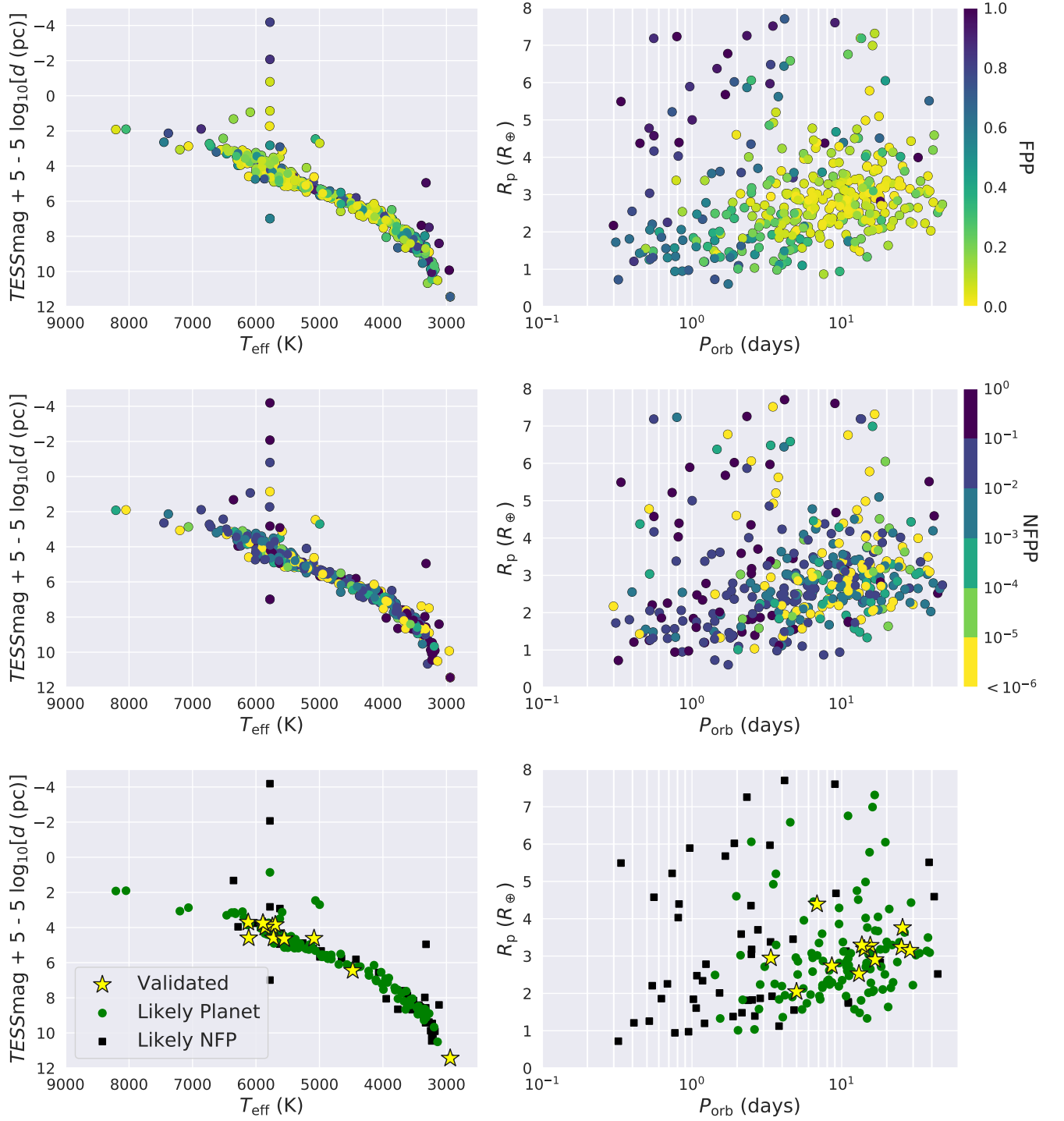


Figure 16. Host star properties (*left*) and planet properties (*right*) of analyzed TOI systems. In the top panels, we color each system according to its FPP. In the center panels, we color each system according to its NFPP. In the bottom panels, we distinguish TOIs that have been classified as validated planets, likely planets, and likely NFPs. In general, planets with smaller radii and longer orbital periods are more likely to be identified as planets. The vertical stack of stars at $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 6000$ K are stars with unknown surface temperatures that were assigned a Solar T_{eff} on the TFOP website.

Table 6. Statistically Validated TOIs

TOI Number	FPP	Original Validation Paper
261.01	0.0067 ± 0.0004	this work
261.02	0.0009 ± 0.0002	this work
469.01	0.0133 ± 0.0016	this work
682.01	0.0069 ± 0.0020	this work
736.01	0.0092 ± 0.0005	Crossfield et al. (2019)
836.01	0.0141 ± 0.0019	this work
1054.01	0.0115 ± 0.0008	this work
1203.01	0.0125 ± 0.0011	this work
1230.01	0.0132 ± 0.0005	this work
1233.01	0.0135 ± 0.0012	Daylan et al. (2020)
1339.02	0.0127 ± 0.0011	Badenas-Agusti et al. (2020)
1774.01	0.0133 ± 0.0010	this work

be concerning for those who wish to use **TRICERATOPS** for large-scale statistical studies of planets detected by *TESS* especially in the case where the true underlying prior distributions are unknown, because it could bias their results to agree with previous planet occurrence rate studies. We therefore plan to add alternative prior distributions, such as a uniform prior, that the user can select when they wish their results to be free of such a bias.

To test the extent to which our results are biased by our prior distribution for R_p , we reran our code on all 384 TOIs with a uniform R_p prior. Because our original R_p prior penalizes planet candidates with $R_p > 5R_\oplus$, one might expect more of these planet candidates to be classified as validated planets or likely planets when the uniform prior is applied. With the uniform prior, the number of validated planet decreased from 12 to 2 (the number of which with $R_p > 5R_\oplus$ increased from 0 to 1), the number of likely planets decreased from 125 to 93 (the number of which with $R_p > 5R_\oplus$ increased from 8 to 9), and the number of likely NFPs increased from 52 to 93 (the number of which with $R_p > 5R_\oplus$ did not change). These results show that the chance of a planet candidate being classified as a validated planet or a likely NFP is strongly dependent on the choice of R_p prior. However, as we do not see a large change in the number of classifications for TOIs with $R_p > 5R_\oplus$, we cannot conclude that our original R_p prior significantly biases our results against these TOIs.

Another notable feature of Figure 16 is the large number of ultra-short-period planet (i.e., planets with $P_{\text{orb}} < 1$ day) TOIs, of which there are 41 with $R_p < 8R_\oplus$. Past studies have found that this type of planet only occurs around $< 1\%$ of stars ([Sanchis-Ojeda et al. 2014](#); [Adams et al. 2016](#)), but the true rate could be higher if all of

these candidates are actual planets. However, this interpretation is dependent on the actual false positive rate of these TOIs. The fact that **TRICERATOPS** classifies none of these USP candidates as likely planets and many as NFPs suggests that this false positive rate is high. To ensure that this prediction is not an artifact of the aforementioned P_{orb} prior (which is biased towards eclipsing binary scenarios in this region of parameter space), we also repeated our calculations without this prior. Upon removing the prior the number of likely planets increased from 125 to 127, while the number of validated planets and likely NFPs remained the same. The increase can be attributed to three ultra-short-period planet candidates (TOIs 460.01, 561.02, and 864.01) whose classifications were changed from likely NFP to likely planet. This small increase in the number of likely planets suggests that our results are only moderately affected by our P_{orb} prior, and that most ultra-short-period planet candidates are in fact false positives.

In addition to a statistical validation tool, **TRICERATOPS** can be used as a vetting tool to prioritize follow-up observations of TOIs. Consider candidates that are classified as a likely planets, but with a FPPs just above the validation threshold. Several TOIs we classify as likely planets match this description, and some (e.g., TOI 1055, [Bedell et al. in prep](#)) have been confirmed concurrently with this paper. These TOIs make would ideal targets for high-resolution imaging follow-up, because the resulting data products can be incorporated to achieve a lower FPP and validate the planet candidate. In addition, we displayed in Section 5 that **TRICERATOPS** is proficient at identifying NFPs, and is often able to predict which nearby star hosts the observed signal. By prioritizing nearby stars with high probabilities of hosting NFPs, observers can increase the rate of true NFP identification. Doing so would allow other members of the *TESS* follow-up community to focus on TOIs that are more likely to be bona fide planets. To display the broad applicability of this prioritization method (i.e., to show that it is not only relevant for TOIs in very crowded fields), we show in Figure 17 the NFPP as a function of the number of nearby stars bright enough to be NFPs for the 384 TOIs in our analysis. As one might predict, the expected NFPP increases in more crowded fields. Nonetheless, TOIs with as few as one NFP candidate can be classified as likely NFPs. In other words, **TRICERATOPS** provides information pertaining to the probability of a given TOI being a NFP beyond what can be gathered from the crowdedness of the surrounding field.

Our tool can also be combined with other validation and vetting tools to provide even more robust valida-

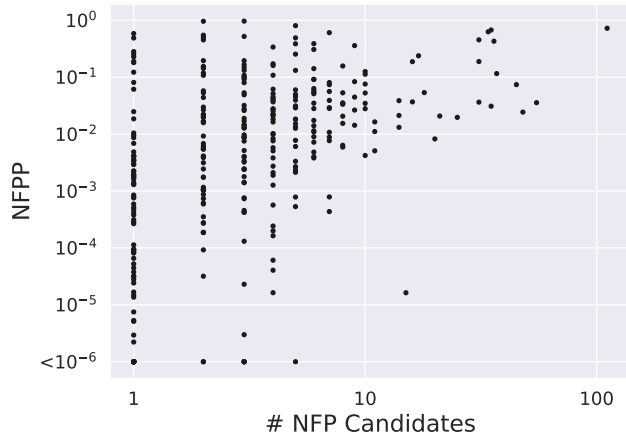


Figure 17. NFPP versus number of nearby stars bright enough to be a NFP for each of the 384 TOIs tested in Section 6. TOIs with no potential NFPs are omitted. While the average NFPP increases as the number of possible NFPs increases, TRICERATOPS is able to classify TOIs with any number of nearby host candidates as likely NFPs ($\text{NFPP} > 10^{-1}$).

tion analyses. As of now, TRICERATOPS is the only validation tool compatible with *TESS* data that models transits from nearby contaminant stars. Seeing as identifying NFPs is one of the strengths of our tool, it can be used as the first step in such an analysis. For example, one could use TRICERATOPS to identify TOIs with sufficiently low NFPPs, and then use tools like VESPA (Morton 2012, 2015) and DAVE (Kostov et al. 2019) to further constrain the FPP of the planet candidate around the target star. Additionally, comparing the results of several tools would allow one to build a stronger statistical argument for or against the existence of a planet.

To improve the utility of TRICERATOPS, we plan on adding features that will make the procedure more efficient and robust. First, we will add a feature that searches for in-transit centroid offsets to constrain the probabilities of NFPs. Second, we will improve our priors by expanding to more dimensions that affect planet occurrence rates, such as planet multiplicity. In this vein, it has been shown that planet candidates that are members of systems with multiple planet candidates are almost always bona fide planets (e.g., Lissauer et al. 2012). This in and of itself is strong evidence that candidate multi-planet systems with validated planets (including TOIs 736, 836, 1233, and 1339) actually host multiple transiting planets. Third, we will make our tool compatible with additional follow-up constraints, such as time-series photometry that rules out signals around nearby stars and spectroscopic observations that provide limits on eclipsing binary properties, to improve its ability to validate planet candidates. Lastly, we will

add additional astrophysical scenarios to our calculation procedure, such as that involving a non-circular orbit and that involving an eclipsing binary where only the secondary eclipse is detected.

8. CONCLUSIONS

We present a new tool, TRICERATOPS, designed for rapid validation of *TESS* Objects of Interest. Using a Bayesian framework, this tool calculates the probabilities of various transit-producing scenarios for a given TOI in order to provide a false positive probability (FPP) and a nearby false positive probability (NFPP). Our tool is also able to fold in information from follow-up observations as additional constraints in these calculations.

We test our tool on 68 TOIs that have been designated as either confirmed planets or astrophysical false positives by members of the *TESS* Observation Follow-up Program (TFOP) based on follow-up observations. We define three classifications based on the results of this analysis. For a TOI to be validated, it must have high cadence observations, $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$, and $\text{FPP} < 0.015$. For a TOI to be classified as a likely planet, it must have $\text{NFPP} < 10^{-3}$ and $\text{FPP} < 0.5$. Lastly, for a TOI to be classified as a likely nearby false positive (NFP), it must have $\text{NFPP} > 10^{-1}$. To display the proficiency of our tool in identifying NFPs, we also compare our predictions to TOIs that have been identified as actual NFPs by TFOP.

We apply our tool to 384 TOIs with 2-minute cadence observations that have not yet been classified as confirmed planets or rejected as false positives. We statistically validate 12 TOIs, classify 125 TOIs as likely planets, and classify 52 TOIs as likely NFPs.

In addition to planet validation, we recommend using TRICERATOPS to identify TOIs with high probabilities of being planets or NFPs and prioritizing these candidates as targets for further vetting via follow-up observations. When used in combination with other vetting tools, such as VESPA and DAVE, our tool can also be utilized to perform even more thorough validation analyses of planet candidates. We hope this tool will be a valuable resource in the search for planets with *TESS*.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the referee Timothy D. Morton (the creator of the **VESPA** analysis) for his careful analysis and review, in response to which both the **TRICERATOPS** analysis and this paper have been significantly improved. We thank Stephen T. Bryson, Jack J. Lissauer, Arjun B. Savel, and David W. Latham for helpful conversations and guidance that improved this paper. We thank Jonathan M. Irwin for the collection and contribution of MEarth data used in this paper. We also thank the *TESS* follow-up community for making this work possible through their efforts to vet planet candidates.

We thank the NASA *TESS* Guest Investigator Program for supporting this work through grant 80NSSC18K1583 (awarded to CDD). SG and CDD also appreciate and acknowledge support from the Hellman Fellows Fund, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and the NASA Exoplanets Research Program (XRP) through grant 80NSSC20K0250.

This work makes use of observations from the LCOGT network. This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program under Grant No. DGE-1650115. The research leading to these results has received funding from the ARC grant for Concerted Research Actions, financed by the Wallonia-Brussels Federation. TRAPPIST is funded by the Belgian Fund for Scientific Research (Fond National de la Recherche Scientifique, FNRS) under the grant FRFC 2.5.594.09.F, with the participation of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF). MG and EJ are F.R.S.-FNRS Senior Research Associates. The MEarth Team gratefully acknowledges the David and Lucile Packard Fellowship for Science and Engineering (awarded to D. C.), continued support by the NSF mostly recently under grant AST-1616624, and support by NASA under grant 80NSSC18K0476 (XRP Program). This work is made possible by a grant from the John Templeton Foundation. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the John Templeton Foundation. JNW thanks the Heising-Simons Foundation for support.

Funding for the *TESS* mission is provided by NASA’s Science Mission directorate. This research has made use of the Exoplanet Follow-up Observation Program website, which is operated by the California Institute of Technology, under contract with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration under the Exoplanet Exploration Program. This paper includes data collected by the *TESS* mission, which are publicly available from

the Mikulski Archive for Space Telescopes (MAST). We acknowledge the use of public *TESS* Alert data from pipelines at the *TESS* Science Office and *TESS* Science Processing Operations Center. Resources supporting this work were provided by the NASA High-End Computing (HEC) Program through the NASA Advanced Supercomputing (NAS) Division at Ames Research Center for the production of the SPOC data products.

Facilities: *TESS*, Shane (ShARCS infrared camera), CDK20N, Univ. Louisville Manner Telescope, CDK700, Hazelwood Observatory, LCOGT, NEarth-North, MuSCAT2, El Sauce Observatory, PEST, HAT-Net, HAT-South, TRAPPIST-South, Steward Observatory Phillips Telescope

Software: NumPy (Oliphant 2006), SciPy (Virtanen et al. 2019), pandas (McKinney et al. 2010) matplotlib (Hunter 2007), astropy (Price-Whelan et al. 2018), beautifulsoup4 (Richardson 2007), batman (Kreidberg 2015), lightkurve (Lightkurve Collaboration et al. 2018), eleanor (Feinstein et al. 2019), **VESPA** (Morton 2012, 2015)

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Table 7. TRICERATOPS Predictions for Undesignated TOIs

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPP	# NFP Candidates	Classification
278683844	119.01	2.13	5.54	8.3	0.04	9.25e-05	2	Likely Planet
278683844	119.02	1.93	10.69	7.0	0.06	1.88e-04	2	Likely Planet
231702397	122.01	2.51	5.08	6.6	0.06	2.79e-05	1	Likely Planet
52368076	125.03	3.38	19.98	4.0	0.04	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
391949880	128.01	3.06	4.94	6.9	0.10	2.76e-02	4	
263003176	130.01	2.32	14.34	4.3	0.04	4.02e-03	2	
89020549	132.01	3.02	2.11	12.4	0.03	8.12e-05	1	Likely Planet
219338557	133.01	2.37	8.20	10.5	0.05	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
234994474	134.01	1.49	1.40	17.3	0.11	7.62e-03	4	
62483237	139.01	2.93	11.06	13.0	0.03	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
425997655	174.03	1.57	12.16	1.6	0.05	5.16e-04	1	Likely Planet
425997655	174.04	1.12	3.98	1.8	0.30	4.19e-03	1	
262530407	177.01	2.24	2.85	21.9	0.08	5.91e-04	2	Likely Planet
251848941	178.01	2.87	6.56	12.1	0.04	4.11e-03	1	
251848941	178.02	3.14	10.35	12.1	0.07	1.76e-03	1	
251848941	178.03	2.43	9.96	9.9	0.07	9.49e-03	1	
207141131	179.01	2.98	4.14	21.1	0.02	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
76923707	181.01	6.58	4.53	38.7	0.24	1.63e-04	4	Likely Planet
183985250	193.01	7.23	0.79	35.6	0.99	1.75e-03	2	
12421862	198.01	1.64	20.43	11.6	0.13	1.48e-05	1	Likely Planet
350618622	201.02	1.74	5.85	1.9	0.45	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
281781375	204.01	2.52	43.83	1.1	0.27	1.66e-01	3	Likely NFP
281575427	205.01	3.03	4.25	8.8	0.09	1.42e-03	3	
55650590	206.01	5.22	0.74	6.2	0.73	1.60e-01	4	Likely NFP
314865962	208.01	2.97	22.45	4.0	0.02	2.45e-03	3	
52204645	209.01	3.02	4.38	7.1	0.07	2.73e-03	4	
141608198	210.01	7.61	9.01	7.2	0.92	1.32e-01	5	Likely NFP
206609630	212.01	5.49	0.34	54.2	1.00	5.02e-01	2	Likely NFP
234345288	213.01	2.84	23.52	10.9	0.20	4.24e-04	3	Likely Planet
167415965	214.02	0.94	9.70	2.1	0.34	7.41e-02	45	
231912935	215.01	3.63	26.30	7.9	0.23	3.18e-05	2	Likely Planet
150098860	220.01	3.53	10.70	9.2	0.10	2.81e-02	6	
316937670	221.01	1.86	0.62	8.1	0.69	1.95e-01	2	Likely NFP
326453034	223.01	4.02	14.45	3.1	0.36	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
160074939	230.01	7.19	13.34	12.9	0.12	1.86e-02	1	
415969908	233.01	2.60	11.67	11.3	0.06	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
305048087	237.01	1.57	5.43	3.3	0.08	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
9006668	238.01	1.61	1.27	7.2	0.35	5.77e-02	2	
101948569	240.01	3.26	19.47	11.5	0.03	9.71e-03	3	
118327550	244.01	3.60	7.40	11.4	0.50	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
201793781	248.01	2.85	5.99	11.5	0.02	2.44e-03	2	
179985715	249.01	2.64	6.61	9.0	0.06	1.30e-02	3	
224225541	251.01	2.96	4.94	8.1	0.02	6.57e-05	1	Likely Planet
237924601	252.01	5.00	1.00	11.9	0.93	8.02e-02	3	

Table 7 *continued*

Table 7 (*continued*)

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPP	# NFP Candidates	Classification
322063810	253.01	1.21	3.52	11.9	0.22	2.23e-02	2	
37749396	260.01	1.81	13.47	3.7	0.20	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
63898957	261.01	2.95	3.36	5.8	<0.01	0.00e+00	0	Validated
63898957	261.02	2.52	13.04	1.3	<0.01	0.00e+00	0	Validated
70513361	262.01	2.75	11.15	12.9	0.06	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
120916706	263.01	4.58	0.56	20.7	0.97	4.88e-01	1	Likely NFP
164767175	266.01	2.72	10.77	8.9	0.03	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
164767175	266.02	1.97	6.19	8.3	0.05	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
259511357	271.01	4.35	2.48	12.1	0.73	2.54e-01	1	Likely NFP
281979481	274.01	2.21	0.54	12.1	0.67	1.41e-01	6	Likely NFP
439456714	277.01	4.23	3.99	18.6	0.14	8.09e-02	1	
244161191	278.01	2.17	0.30	21.2	1.00	0.00e+00	0	
122613513	279.01	3.08	11.49	10.9	0.05	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
42054565	280.01	2.87	10.18	10.0	0.06	1.39e-03	1	
38696105	281.01	4.09	5.57	12.7	0.19	5.49e-03	2	
29781292	282.02	3.03	31.32	3.6	0.23	7.36e-04	2	Likely Planet
382626661	283.01	2.08	17.62	5.8	0.05	1.76e-03	1	
220459976	285.01	2.65	32.33	3.0	0.06	1.87e-03	1	
150030205	286.01	1.51	4.51	5.9	0.22	8.38e-03	4	
150030205	286.02	2.03	39.36	6.2	0.06	2.98e-03	1	
153065527	406.01	1.48	13.17	10.2	0.02	2.66e-04	1	Likely Planet
100990000	411.01	2.19	9.57	8.3	0.05	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
100990000	411.02	1.36	4.04	4.6	0.23	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
94986319	421.01	6.99	16.07	23.2	0.10	2.77e-04	2	Likely Planet
31374837	431.02	1.55	0.49	16.1	0.14	1.60e-03	1	
44647437	435.01	6.48	3.35	12.0	0.79	5.91e-04	1	
179034327	444.01	2.95	17.96	9.0	0.01	1.06e-03	2	
153077621	454.01	2.83	18.08	23.8	0.97	9.61e-01	2	Likely NFP
89256802	457.01	2.34	1.18	24.7	0.72	1.80e-01	1	Likely NFP
64071894	458.01	3.05	17.53	5.1	0.03	1.34e-03	1	
9804616	460.01	4.78	0.52	44.5	0.92	0.00e+00	0	
4646810	461.01	2.71	14.49	5.3	0.10	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
420049884	462.01	2.51	4.11	6.2	0.14	4.51e-02	4	
398733009	464.01	4.40	0.82	15.4	0.99	5.85e-01	1	Likely NFP
33692729	469.01	3.29	13.63	12.7	0.01	8.32e-12	2	Validated
37770169	470.01	4.50	12.19	12.5	0.11	1.89e-03	4	
100608026	475.01	2.62	8.26	12.5	0.03	7.83e-04	5	Likely Planet
317548889	480.01	3.02	6.87	18.7	0.04	1.36e-05	1	Likely Planet
427348923	484.01	3.45	4.73	12.0	0.83	8.05e-01	5	Likely NFP
260708537	486.01	0.60	1.74	4.6	0.62	3.50e-02	6	
31852980	487.01	2.44	24.33	3.5	0.14	5.73e-03	2	
452866790	488.01	1.20	1.20	9.3	0.24	2.18e-02	2	
19025965	493.01	3.95	5.95	16.3	0.10	6.15e-02	1	
19519368	494.01	2.46	1.70	8.5	0.28	3.35e-02	8	
123702439	499.01	4.12	8.52	21.0	0.13	4.19e-02	4	
134200185	500.01	1.32	0.55	12.6	0.74	3.47e-02	10	

Table 7 *continued*

Table 7 (*continued*)

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPF	# NFP Candidates	Classification
453211454	509.01	3.18	18.12	13.1	0.02	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
238086647	510.01	3.57	1.35	1.2	0.64	3.69e-02	4	
119292328	512.01	1.84	7.19	10.3	0.07	4.55e-04	3	Likely Planet
264979636	518.01	4.51	17.88	2.3	0.67	9.21e-05	1	
148479278	520.01	2.05	0.52	6.3	0.58	2.79e-02	10	
27649847	521.01	1.33	1.54	12.8	0.34	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
19451711	522.01	2.55	0.40	12.5	0.77	8.85e-03	7	
71512186	525.01	3.76	14.82	6.8	0.02	8.36e-05	1	Likely Planet
200593988	526.01	4.38	7.70	23.4	0.99	2.92e-02	5	
144700903	532.01	5.87	2.33	18.7	0.58	8.05e-02	7	
309791156	533.01	6.05	19.57	15.8	0.45	2.30e-05	3	Likely Planet
237751146	538.01	5.68	1.67	24.0	1.00	9.67e-01	3	Likely NFP
238004786	539.01	1.72	0.31	11.7	0.64	7.58e-02	10	
50618703	544.01	1.94	1.55	19.4	0.11	5.77e-03	4	
161477033	553.02	2.51	11.93	9.7	0.04	2.01e-03	1	
161477033	553.03	2.79	40.90	6.3	0.04	2.25e-03	1	
407966340	554.01	3.35	7.05	9.1	0.14	4.80e-04	1	Likely Planet
55488511	557.01	2.56	3.35	1.4	0.20	3.47e-03	1	
101011575	560.01	2.95	6.40	16.0	0.02	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
377064495	561.01	2.86	10.78	10.0	0.02	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
377064495	561.02	1.43	0.45	8.7	0.58	0.00e+00	0	
377064495	561.03	2.08	16.37	4.1	0.05	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
37575651	568.01	3.86	9.60	9.7	0.07	1.37e-17	1	Likely Planet
126733133	570.01	6.38	1.47	24.2	0.94	7.87e-04	7	
296739893	620.01	2.86	5.10	17.7	0.07	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
133334108	637.01	1.87	2.85	11.6	0.26	1.13e-01	10	Likely NFP
22221375	652.01	2.20	3.98	12.0	0.07	7.49e-06	1	Likely Planet
35009898	654.01	2.01	1.53	23.5	0.35	1.89e-01	1	Likely NFP
124573851	669.01	3.63	3.95	13.3	0.03	3.97e-03	3	
151825527	672.01	5.20	3.63	26.8	0.08	5.68e-07	2	Likely Planet
158588995	674.01	4.60	1.98	43.1	0.03	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
294395926	678.01	4.18	11.32	18.4	0.12	5.79e-02	6	
429304876	682.01	4.39	6.84	17.3	<0.01	0.00e+00	0	Validated
77156829	696.01	0.95	0.86	8.1	0.60	6.17e-02	4	
77156829	696.02	1.33	14.78	6.6	0.26	2.42e-04	4	Likely Planet
77253676	697.01	2.29	8.61	9.8	0.04	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
141527579	698.01	2.02	15.09	7.7	0.11	6.14e-04	2	Likely Planet
149302744	699.01	3.26	14.80	3.1	0.23	3.65e-02	31	
149302744	699.02	3.36	33.62	2.9	0.17	3.09e-02	35	
150428135	700.02	3.03	37.42	-0.3	0.16	7.21e-03	6	
150428135	700.03	2.75	9.98	4.2	0.08	4.03e-03	6	
237914496	702.01	2.25	3.57	8.8	0.25	7.56e-04	1	Likely Planet
237928815	703.01	2.37	8.67	7.1	0.06	2.24e-03	1	
237928815	703.02	2.64	45.12	1.3	0.07	2.91e-03	1	
260004324	704.01	1.12	3.81	1.9	0.48	2.38e-01	17	Likely NFP
391904697	705.01	2.74	47.02	1.8	0.16	2.51e-02	4	

Table 7 *continued*

Table 7 (*continued*)

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPP	# NFP Candidates	Classification
396720998	709.01	3.99	32.38	25.9	1.00	0.00e+00	0	
38510224	711.01	2.32	18.38	6.7	0.30	5.44e-03	2	
150151262	712.01	2.92	9.53	10.3	0.13	1.28e-02	3	
167600516	713.01	2.23	36.00	6.4	0.07	7.54e-03	3	
167600516	713.02	1.39	1.87	3.9	0.50	2.91e-02	7	
219195044	714.01	3.46	4.32	8.4	0.19	8.73e-03	3	
219195044	714.02	3.56	10.18	5.7	0.16	5.15e-03	3	
38571020	721.01	2.72	12.29	1.9	0.17	1.27e-02	5	
38509907	722.01	3.36	15.30	4.5	0.20	4.97e-02	5	
177077336	723.01	1.30	1.42	4.0	0.59	3.96e-02	5	
34068865	731.01	0.72	0.32	10.3	0.72	1.26e-01	10	Likely NFP
36724087	732.01	0.94	0.77	16.1	0.57	2.54e-01	5	Likely NFP
36724087	732.02	1.73	12.25	17.4	0.20	3.97e-02	4	
106402532	733.01	2.01	4.89	8.3	0.09	7.67e-03	7	
181804752	736.01	2.05	4.99	27.2	<0.01	1.08e-10	1	Validated
181804752	736.02	0.97	0.95	13.3	0.71	1.47e-01	3	Likely NFP
219189765	737.01	6.78	1.73	20.9	1.00	0.00e+00	0	
310009611	740.01	3.59	2.13	13.3	0.78	7.24e-01	111	Likely NFP
359271092	741.01	0.87	7.58	6.4	0.13	1.32e-02	14	
444842193	745.01	2.47	1.08	9.1	0.53	1.89e-01	31	Likely NFP
73228647	755.01	1.97	2.54	11.0	0.20	4.47e-02	9	
73649615	756.01	2.78	1.24	14.2	0.56	3.59e-01	9	Likely NFP
130924120	757.01	3.67	17.47	11.5	0.03	5.25e-05	1	Likely Planet
165317334	761.01	3.10	10.56	13.2	0.05	2.78e-02	4	
178709444	762.01	7.51	3.47	31.6	0.94	0.00e+00	0	
178819686	763.01	3.29	5.60	5.8	0.06	1.84e-02	4	
178819686	763.02	3.40	12.28	5.7	0.04	9.95e-03	4	
219401954	765.01	2.54	0.86	7.5	0.14	1.92e-03	1	
277634430	771.01	7.26	2.33	9.0	0.95	3.07e-01	6	Likely NFP
286864983	772.01	6.76	11.02	23.9	0.23	1.84e-34	1	Likely Planet
306996324	776.01	2.28	15.66	11.6	0.04	1.31e-04	3	Likely Planet
306996324	776.02	1.68	8.24	6.6	0.05	3.38e-03	3	
334305570	777.01	7.32	16.60	18.3	0.11	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
374095457	779.01	3.38	0.78	24.8	0.07	1.08e-02	7	
429358906	782.01	2.04	16.05	9.4	0.12	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
451645081	783.01	3.09	16.23	8.0	0.29	1.63e-05	15	Likely Planet
460984940	784.01	2.14	2.80	13.4	0.22	5.37e-02	18	
374829238	785.01	4.13	18.64	12.1	0.31	2.08e-02	21	
375059587	786.01	2.45	12.67	3.9	0.15	2.11e-03	4	
350584963	787.01	1.62	2.13	2.9	0.69	2.63e-03	5	
349829627	788.01	4.46	6.49	4.1	0.08	5.32e-04	5	Likely Planet
300710077	789.01	1.10	5.45	6.7	0.44	9.17e-02	6	
278895705	795.01	3.49	8.76	3.5	0.20	5.92e-03	8	
277099925	796.01	4.03	0.81	11.5	0.81	4.29e-01	36	Likely NFP
271596225	797.01	1.32	1.80	6.1	0.62	7.40e-02	7	
271596225	797.02	1.49	4.14	3.3	0.51	5.13e-02	6	

Table 7 *continued*

Table 7 (*continued*)

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPP	# NFP Candidates	Classification
255685030	799.01	2.11	5.54	6.6	0.20	8.72e-03	3	
179308757	800.01	5.89	0.97	7.0	0.85	6.75e-01	35	Likely NFP
177258735	801.01	1.34	0.78	3.0	0.61	6.36e-03	8	
167303382	802.01	0.98	3.69	3.2	0.24	1.43e-02	9	
41227743	804.01	1.77	1.42	4.4	0.49	1.97e-02	25	
38460940	805.01	6.44	4.12	7.1	0.59	9.24e-03	2	
33831980	806.01	4.14	21.92	8.9	0.14	1.02e-03	2	
30853470	807.01	1.81	5.27	3.2	0.38	1.75e-03	2	
30122649	808.01	2.69	9.74	12.3	0.02	3.81e-03	6	
388106759	810.01	2.66	28.30	1.9	0.17	1.14e-02	6	
125405602	821.01	3.18	13.82	11.4	0.14	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
158978373	823.01	7.19	13.54	9.7	0.31	1.98e-02	2	
276128561	829.01	4.86	3.29	16.4	0.28	8.35e-02	9	
350332997	832.01	6.02	1.92	18.5	0.72	1.19e-01	2	Likely NFP
405700729	835.01	3.59	4.79	18.8	0.57	1.55e-02	8	
440887364	836.01	2.73	8.59	14.1	0.01	0.00e+00	0	Validated
440887364	836.02	1.84	3.82	5.8	0.07	8.50e-04	1	Likely Planet
238898571	863.01	1.27	0.53	2.2	0.74	5.61e-02	7	
231728511	864.01	3.04	0.52	5.7	0.81	7.85e-04	1	
358460246	867.01	2.49	15.40	2.5	0.16	2.83e-02	7	
200807066	869.01	2.62	26.48	5.9	0.08	2.39e-03	3	
219229644	870.01	2.30	22.04	2.8	0.09	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
219344917	871.01	2.27	28.69	5.3	0.10	3.87e-03	2	
220459826	872.01	2.65	2.24	8.3	0.29	5.15e-02	4	
237920046	873.01	1.73	5.93	3.6	0.32	2.22e-02	4	
232025086	874.01	2.45	5.90	1.3	0.12	2.60e-02	3	
14165625	875.01	2.47	11.02	11.5	0.04	1.07e-03	2	
32497972	876.01	3.09	38.70	0.1	0.04	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
210873792	900.01	2.50	4.84	6.1	0.26	5.28e-02	10	
261257684	904.01	2.72	18.35	9.6	0.03	2.22e-06	1	Likely Planet
350153977	908.01	3.27	3.18	13.1	0.20	2.77e-02	3	
369327947	910.01	1.01	2.03	5.7	0.28	5.66e-04	4	Likely Planet
406941612	912.01	1.90	4.68	15.0	0.07	4.05e-05	4	Likely Planet
407126408	913.01	2.57	11.09	6.9	0.02	4.77e-07	3	Likely Planet
259863352	1051.01	3.30	21.70	2.0	0.09	4.21e-04	1	Likely Planet
317060587	1052.01	3.30	9.14	3.4	0.10	3.82e-03	4	
366989877	1054.01	3.28	15.51	11.1	0.01	6.64e-09	1	Validated
320004517	1055.01	4.05	17.47	12.2	0.02	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
421894914	1056.01	2.85	5.31	1.9	0.16	1.06e-03	2	
31553893	1058.01	3.36	11.11	4.8	0.02	1.53e-02	5	
299799658	1062.01	2.38	4.11	8.9	0.14	1.29e-03	1	
406976746	1063.01	2.35	10.07	10.5	0.03	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
79748331	1064.01	2.80	6.44	4.7	0.05	1.45e-02	3	
79748331	1064.02	2.95	12.23	13.9	0.04	1.29e-02	3	
327301957	1074.01	2.98	13.93	13.7	0.03	6.16e-03	2	
351601843	1075.01	2.00	0.60	11.4	0.41	5.32e-02	3	

Table 7 *continued*

Table 7 (*continued*)

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPP	# NFP Candidates	Classification
370133522	1078.01	1.26	0.52	17.0	0.41	1.55e-01	2	Likely NFP
161032923	1080.01	2.26	3.97	8.3	0.17	1.11e-02	11	
261108236	1082.01	3.62	16.35	7.1	0.06	2.19e-02	4	
322270620	1083.01	2.48	12.96	8.4	0.10	3.22e-03	3	
383390264	1098.01	3.38	10.18	4.0	0.06	2.99e-06	3	Likely Planet
290348383	1099.01	3.49	6.44	13.3	0.07	2.48e-02	1	
409934330	1114.01	6.06	2.49	37.4	0.32	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
304100538	1116.01	2.34	5.01	4.5	0.16	1.64e-02	4	
29960110	1201.01	3.05	2.49	5.3	0.29	2.82e-01	1	Likely NFP
23434737	1203.01	3.76	25.49	11.0	0.01	0.00e+00	0	Validated
467666275	1204.01	1.97	1.38	4.0	0.38	3.57e-02	55	
287776397	1205.01	4.01	2.39	2.7	0.15	1.64e-02	11	
364393429	1207.01	1.39	2.63	2.1	0.51	1.16e-01	37	Likely NFP
273985865	1208.01	1.92	3.42	5.1	0.35	1.32e-01	3	Likely NFP
30037565	1209.01	4.19	40.72	1.8	0.19	8.24e-03	20	
50312495	1211.01	3.74	14.71	6.4	0.06	6.88e-03	1	
451606970	1214.01	5.51	38.36	6.8	0.67	6.28e-01	34	Likely NFP
453260209	1215.01	1.20	1.21	4.4	0.71	3.88e-01	6	Likely NFP
141527965	1216.01	1.75	4.55	3.5	0.30	4.21e-03	10	
248092710	1217.01	4.59	41.46	6.0	0.17	1.08e-01	4	Likely NFP
294781547	1218.01	2.27	13.77	4.3	0.22	5.09e-03	11	
294981566	1219.01	2.36	1.91	7.6	0.34	2.44e-02	48	
374997123	1222.01	2.32	10.19	1.4	0.23	1.27e-03	4	
382437043	1223.01	4.08	14.64	1.3	0.20	2.64e-02	9	
299798795	1224.01	1.95	4.18	4.6	0.08	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
150428703	1225.01	2.33	13.90	4.0	0.20	5.32e-02	8	
177115354	1226.01	2.48	3.93	6.5	0.34	3.54e-02	8	
300038935	1228.01	4.43	29.05	5.5	0.05	2.00e-04	4	Likely Planet
287156968	1230.01	3.23	25.06	11.4	0.01	0.00e+00	0	Validated
447061717	1231.01	3.37	24.25	17.3	0.03	2.46e-32	3	Likely Planet
260647166	1233.01	3.19	14.18	13.3	0.01	1.63e-05	4	Validated
260647166	1233.02	3.19	19.59	10.6	0.03	6.08e-05	4	Likely Planet
260647166	1233.03	2.45	6.20	8.6	0.02	2.14e-03	5	
260647166	1233.04	2.02	3.80	7.3	0.07	8.97e-03	6	
153951307	1238.01	2.34	3.29	14.0	0.06	3.34e-03	1	
153951307	1238.02	1.57	0.76	2.3	0.50	2.00e-02	2	
154716798	1239.01	4.75	12.64	24.0	0.11	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
198212955	1242.01	1.81	0.38	7.6	0.64	9.25e-02	3	
219698776	1243.01	2.97	4.66	13.7	0.48	3.14e-03	2	
219850915	1244.01	2.55	6.40	8.7	0.07	1.65e-02	2	
229781583	1245.01	2.29	4.82	12.8	0.15	1.74e-02	6	
230127302	1246.01	3.88	18.65	9.7	0.06	3.00e-02	5	
230127302	1246.02	3.00	4.31	4.3	0.07	1.81e-02	5	
230127302	1246.03	2.73	5.90	3.6	0.08	1.34e-02	5	
232540264	1247.01	3.10	15.92	14.1	0.02	3.53e-04	2	Likely Planet
232976128	1249.01	3.43	13.08	12.0	0.06	3.99e-03	1	

Table 7 *continued*

Table 7 (*continued*)

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPF	# NFP Candidates	Classification
237222864	1255.01	3.12	10.29	13.8	0.10	5.31e-06	1	Likely Planet
355867695	1260.01	2.46	3.13	6.9	0.05	4.05e-03	3	
355867695	1260.02	2.87	7.49	5.9	0.05	8.71e-04	2	Likely Planet
406672232	1263.01	1.84	1.02	2.6	0.34	1.88e-01	16	Likely NFP
467179528	1266.01	2.60	10.90	12.3	0.02	1.68e-05	1	Likely Planet
467179528	1266.02	2.10	18.80	5.8	0.21	2.42e-05	1	Likely Planet
198241702	1269.01	2.31	4.25	6.4	0.10	1.02e-02	4	
417948359	1272.01	5.97	3.32	17.1	0.93	6.06e-01	7	Likely NFP
13499636	1275.01	2.85	11.32	6.7	0.11	4.91e-02	3	
153949511	1277.02	3.14	37.07	6.8	0.06	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
224297258	1279.01	2.81	9.61	14.7	0.03	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
232971294	1281.01	2.58	6.39	5.6	0.12	7.58e-04	3	Likely Planet
352764091	1287.01	3.30	9.60	8.4	0.09	6.06e-03	5	
269701147	1339.02	3.15	28.58	8.1	0.01	3.78e-05	1	Validated
229747848	1347.01	2.06	0.85	7.0	0.59	6.32e-02	6	
199444169	1410.01	3.38	1.22	14.1	0.13	2.91e-02	5	
116483514	1411.01	1.37	1.45	8.2	0.20	1.45e-02	3	
148782377	1415.01	4.99	14.42	11.8	0.02	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
158025009	1416.01	1.76	1.07	5.9	0.19	5.32e-02	2	
346418409	1423.01	3.70	2.76	25.0	0.63	5.48e-01	2	Likely NFP
418959198	1424.01	2.90	4.90	15.3	0.04	1.89e-02	3	
293954617	1430.01	2.15	7.43	10.1	0.03	5.12e-06	1	Likely Planet
138588540	1434.01	2.22	29.89	8.8	0.03	3.71e-08	1	Likely Planet
153976959	1435.01	1.31	0.69	6.4	0.55	1.69e-02	2	
154383539	1436.01	1.78	0.87	12.0	0.63	4.40e-02	2	
198356533	1437.01	2.72	18.84	4.2	0.02	1.79e-03	3	
233617847	1440.01	3.06	15.52	4.0	0.49	4.53e-01	2	Likely NFP
233951353	1441.01	2.73	22.10	4.4	0.06	2.67e-03	5	
235683377	1442.01	1.21	0.41	8.0	0.84	1.01e-01	3	Likely NFP
258514800	1444.01	1.46	0.47	3.5	0.65	9.12e-02	6	
259172391	1445.01	3.26	9.81	13.3	0.05	1.09e-02	6	
294471966	1446.01	2.45	6.32	5.2	0.12	2.13e-02	14	
343628284	1448.01	3.28	8.11	11.4	0.12	3.43e-02	8	
356158613	1449.01	4.02	24.71	10.2	0.39	3.69e-02	16	
356158613	1449.02	1.82	2.37	6.0	0.57	4.54e-01	31	Likely NFP
377293776	1450.01	1.10	2.04	3.0	0.72	2.06e-02	8	
417931607	1451.01	3.08	33.07	5.2	0.09	2.87e-04	1	Likely Planet
420112589	1452.01	1.77	11.06	2.1	0.46	3.86e-01	5	Likely NFP
198390247	1453.02	1.21	4.31	1.8	0.34	2.10e-02	4	
16920150	1459.01	4.68	9.16	12.9	0.45	1.43e-01	2	Likely NFP
188768068	1462.01	1.83	2.18	7.8	0.09	9.03e-05	1	Likely Planet
229944666	1464.01	3.08	11.33	10.6	0.18	1.83e-02	5	
237086564	1466.01	2.79	1.87	12.6	0.11	3.91e-02	7	
240968774	1467.01	2.14	5.97	9.5	0.10	4.84e-03	6	
243185500	1468.01	2.65	15.53	11.4	0.09	3.78e-04	1	Likely Planet
243185500	1468.02	1.38	1.88	7.9	0.32	1.51e-01	2	Likely NFP

Table 7 *continued*

Table 7 (*continued*)

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPF	# NFP Candidates	Classification
284441182	1470.01	2.42	2.53	1.9	0.13	3.87e-02	14	
306263608	1471.01	4.26	20.77	6.6	0.02	3.23e-05	1	Likely Planet
306955329	1472.01	4.78	6.36	14.1	0.09	8.98e-03	3	
352413427	1473.01	2.90	5.26	5.4	0.02	2.43e-03	3	
428679607	1669.01	2.65	2.68	4.7	0.09	2.29e-03	5	
259168516	1680.01	1.55	4.80	4.8	0.30	1.08e-01	2	Likely NFP
321041369	1681.01	3.62	1.54	19.8	0.69	9.95e-02	3	
58542531	1683.01	2.72	3.06	8.1	0.06	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
28900646	1685.01	1.56	0.67	17.2	0.65	5.35e-02	6	
102672709	1686.01	4.24	6.70	5.7	0.04	3.33e-03	5	
103448870	1687.01	4.39	10.26	9.0	0.60	7.98e-07	3	
268334473	1691.01	3.68	16.73	12.2	0.02	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
288636342	1692.01	5.10	17.73	7.8	0.03	7.77e-03	5	
353475866	1693.01	1.46	1.77	4.9	0.31	4.59e-02	5	
396740648	1694.01	5.62	3.77	24.4	0.61	0.00e+00	0	
422756130	1695.01	2.22	3.13	12.1	0.23	1.40e-02	6	
470381900	1696.01	3.18	2.50	6.1	0.28	1.58e-01	8	Likely NFP
1884091865	1697.01	3.13	10.69	5.0	0.34	1.72e-01	4	Likely NFP
15863518	1713.01	4.17	0.56	22.7	0.81	5.98e-02	5	
14336130	1716.01	3.02	8.09	13.7	0.05	6.84e-03	2	
257241363	1718.01	3.96	5.59	22.6	0.02	3.10e-05	1	Likely Planet
85242435	1722.01	4.29	9.61	14.1	0.02	2.72e-04	2	Likely Planet
71431780	1723.01	3.16	13.72	9.0	0.02	7.34e-04	3	Likely Planet
81212286	1724.01	2.26	0.69	14.4	0.84	5.21e-01	3	Likely NFP
241225337	1727.01	2.58	1.83	10.7	0.33	3.13e-02	5	
285048486	1728.01	4.92	3.49	25.5	0.10	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
318022259	1730.01	2.58	6.22	22.7	0.03	1.69e-02	3	
318022259	1730.02	1.48	2.16	8.8	0.22	1.08e-01	3	Likely NFP
470987100	1732.01	2.66	4.12	15.0	0.06	1.59e-02	2	
159418353	1739.01	2.24	8.30	7.9	0.10	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
174041208	1740.01	2.51	19.43	7.6	0.05	4.23e-04	3	Likely Planet
232650365	1746.01	1.83	2.53	2.3	0.50	1.95e-01	3	Likely NFP
408636441	1759.01	3.50	37.70	10.6	0.03	2.36e-13	5	Likely Planet
420112587	1760.01	1.74	11.06	8.4	0.56	4.91e-01	5	Likely NFP
4897275	1774.01	2.90	16.71	8.0	0.01	1.13e-04	1	Validated
21535395	1776.01	1.58	2.80	7.6	0.29	9.57e-05	1	Likely Planet
29191624	1777.01	2.82	14.65	5.2	0.05	3.13e-04	1	Likely Planet
39699648	1778.01	3.43	6.52	9.9	0.07	3.54e-03	1	
160045097	1782.01	2.47	4.99	7.4	0.05	4.87e-03	1	
229938290	1783.01	0.73	1.42	0.3	0.74	3.19e-02	3	
286916251	1794.01	3.84	8.78	4.0	0.04	1.16e-03	2	
368435330	1797.01	3.30	3.65	17.4	0.03	4.46e-05	1	Likely Planet
198153540	1798.01	2.33	8.02	10.0	0.05	1.87e-04	2	Likely Planet
8967242	1799.01	1.93	7.09	8.3	0.09	2.94e-06	1	Likely Planet
119584412	1801.01	2.15	21.28	5.2	0.07	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
138762614	1802.01	2.46	16.80	8.4	0.08	2.67e-02	2	

Table 7 *continued*

Table 7 (*continued*)

TIC ID	TOI Number	R_p (R_\oplus)	P_{orb} (days)	SNR	FPP	NFPF	# NFP Candidates	Classification
144401492	1803.01	4.51	12.89	17.4	0.29	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
144401492	1803.02	3.08	6.29	13.9	0.02	0.00e+00	1	Likely Planet
148679712	1804.01	3.01	4.93	16.6	0.05	5.08e-03	4	
165763244	1805.01	3.23	24.07	8.8	0.03	1.40e-03	3	
166648874	1806.01	3.04	15.15	11.4	0.02	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
180695581	1807.01	1.48	0.55	15.3	0.28	8.66e-03	1	
390651552	1827.01	1.40	1.47	21.3	0.02	1.05e-02	1	
27194429	1831.01	7.18	0.56	12.2	0.87	2.98e-02	2	
307956397	1832.01	7.71	4.15	22.5	0.71	2.28e-01	1	Likely NFP
347332255	1835.01	2.15	5.64	11.2	0.57	0.00e+00	1	
381714186	1839.01	2.49	1.42	11.7	0.27	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
202426247	1860.01	1.61	1.07	4.3	0.54	3.39e-01	4	Likely NFP
390651552	1827.01	1.40	1.47	21.3	0.02	1.05e-02	1	
27194429	1831.01	7.18	0.56	12.2	0.87	2.98e-02	2	
307956397	1832.01	7.71	4.15	22.5	0.71	2.28e-01	1	Likely NFP
347332255	1835.01	2.15	5.64	11.2	0.57	0.00e+00	1	
381714186	1839.01	2.49	1.42	11.7	0.27	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
202426247	1860.01	1.61	1.07	4.3	0.54	3.39e-01	4	Likely NFP
188589164	2013.01	1.03	2.61	12.8	0.20	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
368287008	2015.01	3.38	3.35	16.4	0.26	1.23e-01	1	Likely NFP
219508169	2016.02	2.80	2.46	14.3	0.04	4.13e-03	2	
357501308	2018.01	2.22	7.44	12.2	0.02	1.86e-04	2	Likely Planet
159781361	2019.01	5.78	15.35	11.9	0.02	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet
11996814	2022.01	4.37	0.45	25.0	0.99	4.35e-04	7	
16884216	2023.01	2.47	11.19	17.4	0.03	0.00e+00	0	Likely Planet

NOTE—This table is published in its entirety in machine-readable format.